COPPELION

コッペリオン

9

井上智徳

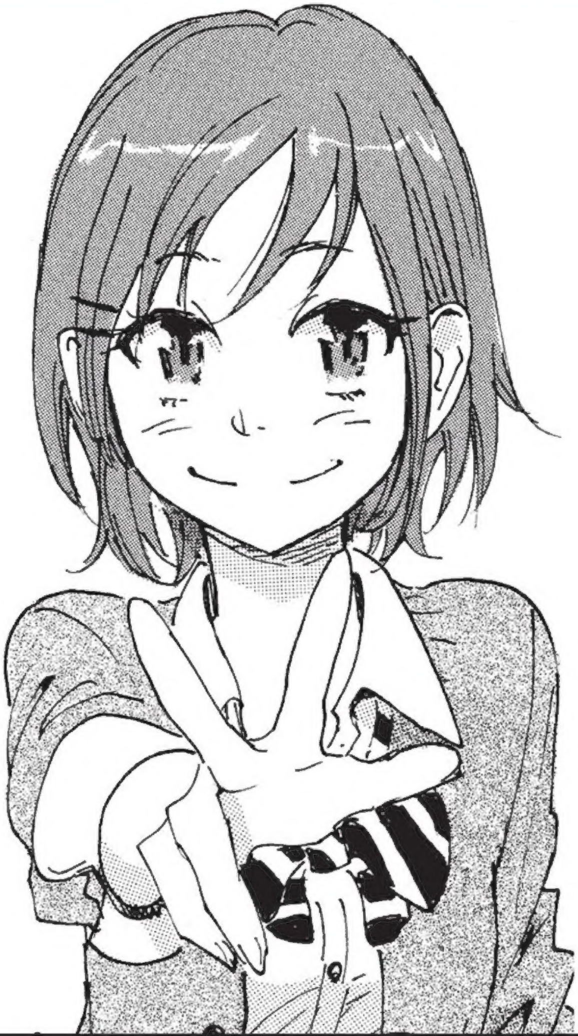
TOMONORI INOUE

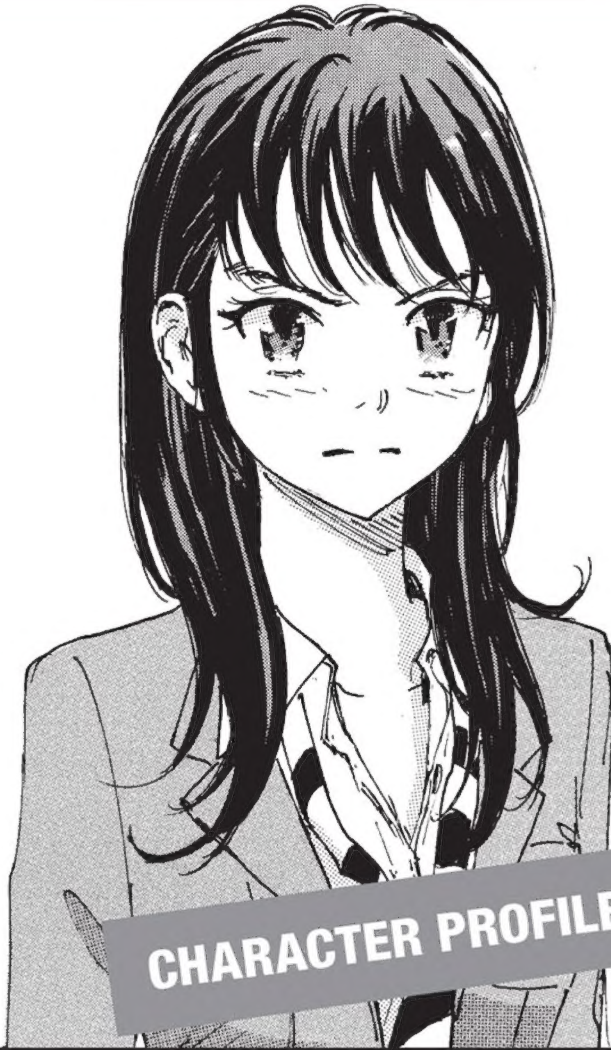
COPPELION

9

TOMONORI INOUE

COPPELION
ODAKYU





CHARACTER PROFILES

AOI FUKASAKU

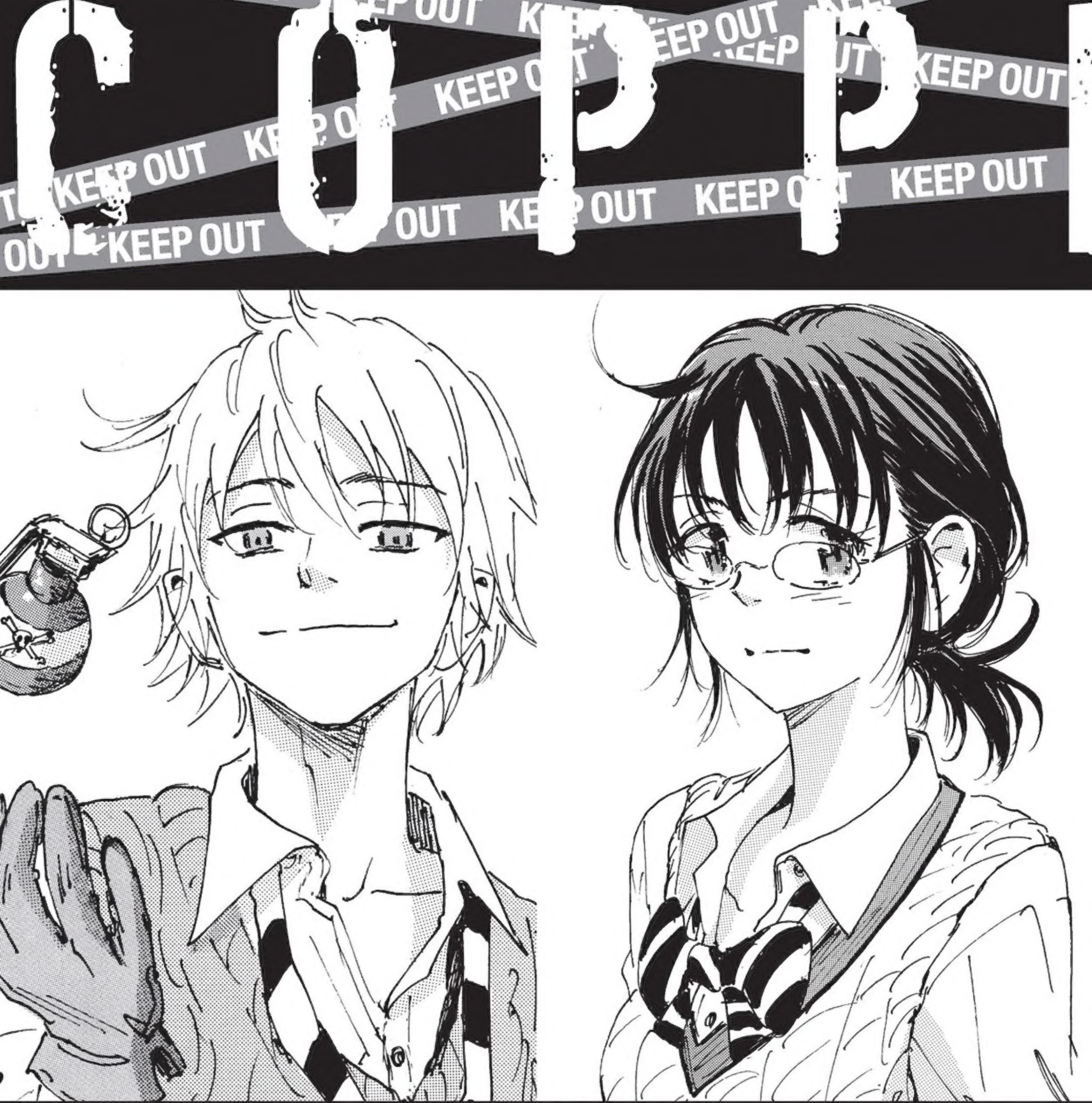
(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

The Medical Unit's cheerful icebreaker. Aoi has a bottomless stomach, and although she constantly complains, her bright personality lifts the others up despite the disheartening conditions in Tokyo. She was bullied by the Ozu sisters back at the JSDF technical school in Osaka.

IBARA NARUSE

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

Leader of the Coppelion Medical Unit. She possesses staggering athletic ability, and her combat skills are excellent. Relying on her strong conviction to save everyone in Tokyo to give her strength, she leads the search for survivors. Her speech can be a bit rough.



HARUTO KUROSAWA

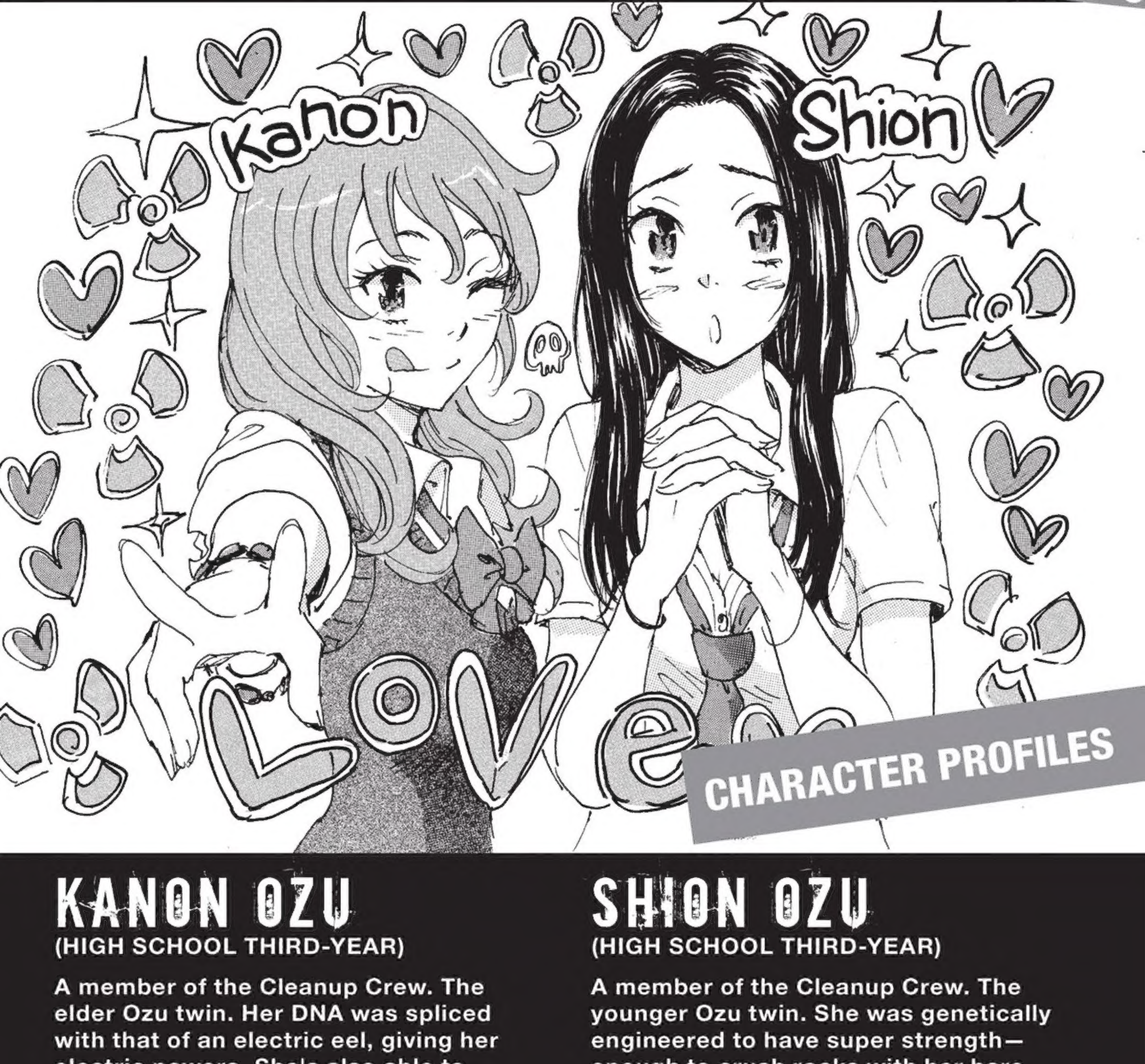
(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

The leader of the Cleanup Crew. He joined the Medical Unit as backup. He has a sharp mind and always keeps his cool. He enjoys crafting explosives. He seemed wary of humans, but sacrificed himself for them during the mission so that the armored train could escape.

TAEKO NOMURA

(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

The Medical Unit's comforting member. She's quite knowledgeable and has superhuman senses (she wears glasses to reduce her eyesight to 10% of its true strength because she sees too far). She loves animals. She's taken charge of delivering Ibuki's child.



CHARACTER PROFILES

KANON OZU

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

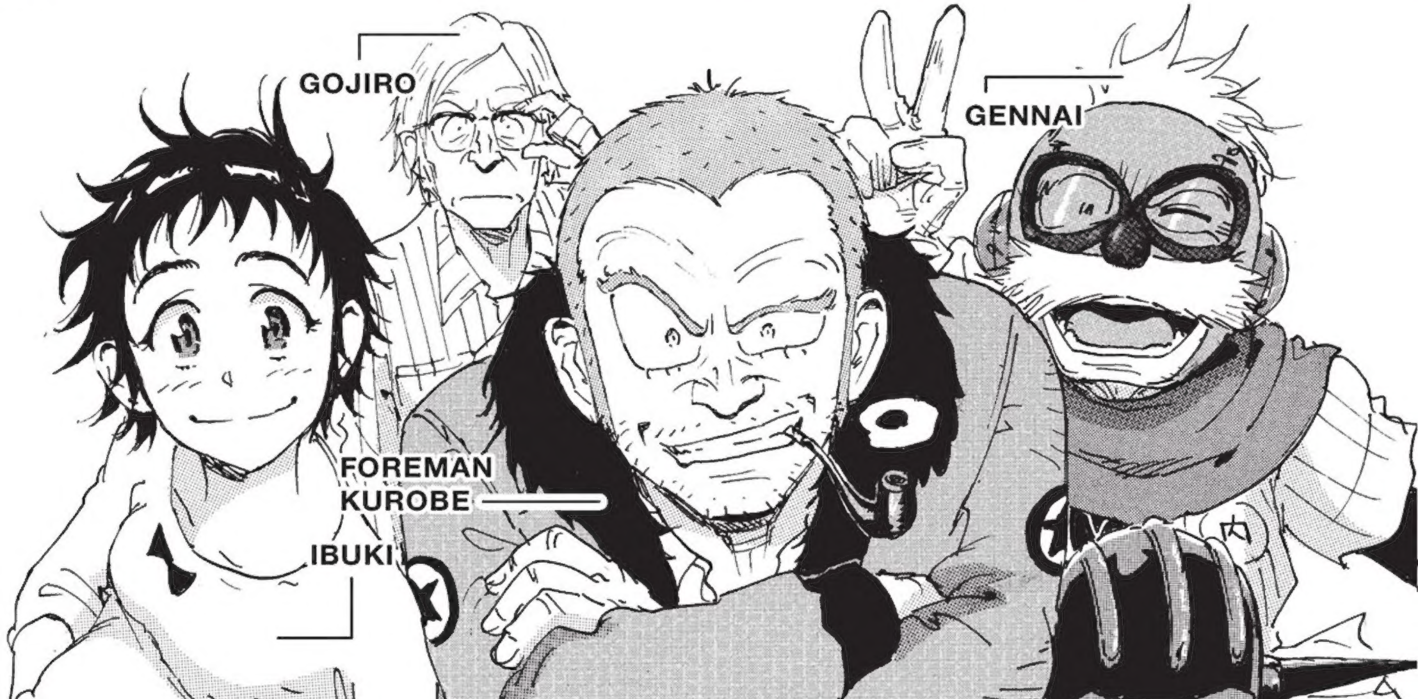
A member of the Cleanup Crew. The elder Ozu twin. Her DNA was spliced with that of an electric eel, giving her electric powers. She's also able to use her powers to sense ions in living things. She loves to bully little animals.

SHION OZU

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

A member of the Cleanup Crew. The younger Ozu twin. She was genetically engineered to have super strength—enough to crush rocks with her bare hands. She's prone to violence, but she adores her older sister.

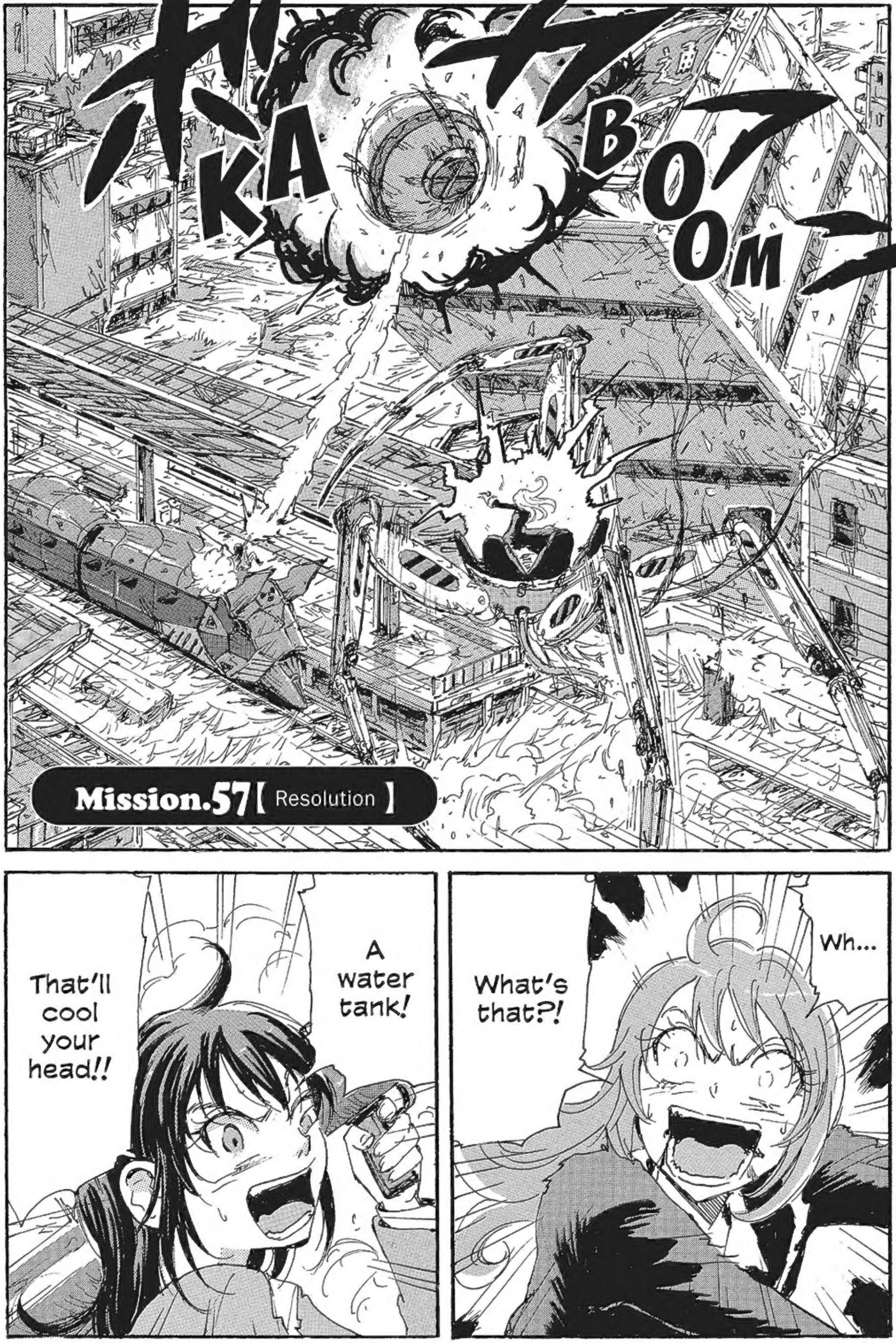
COPP
KEEP OUT

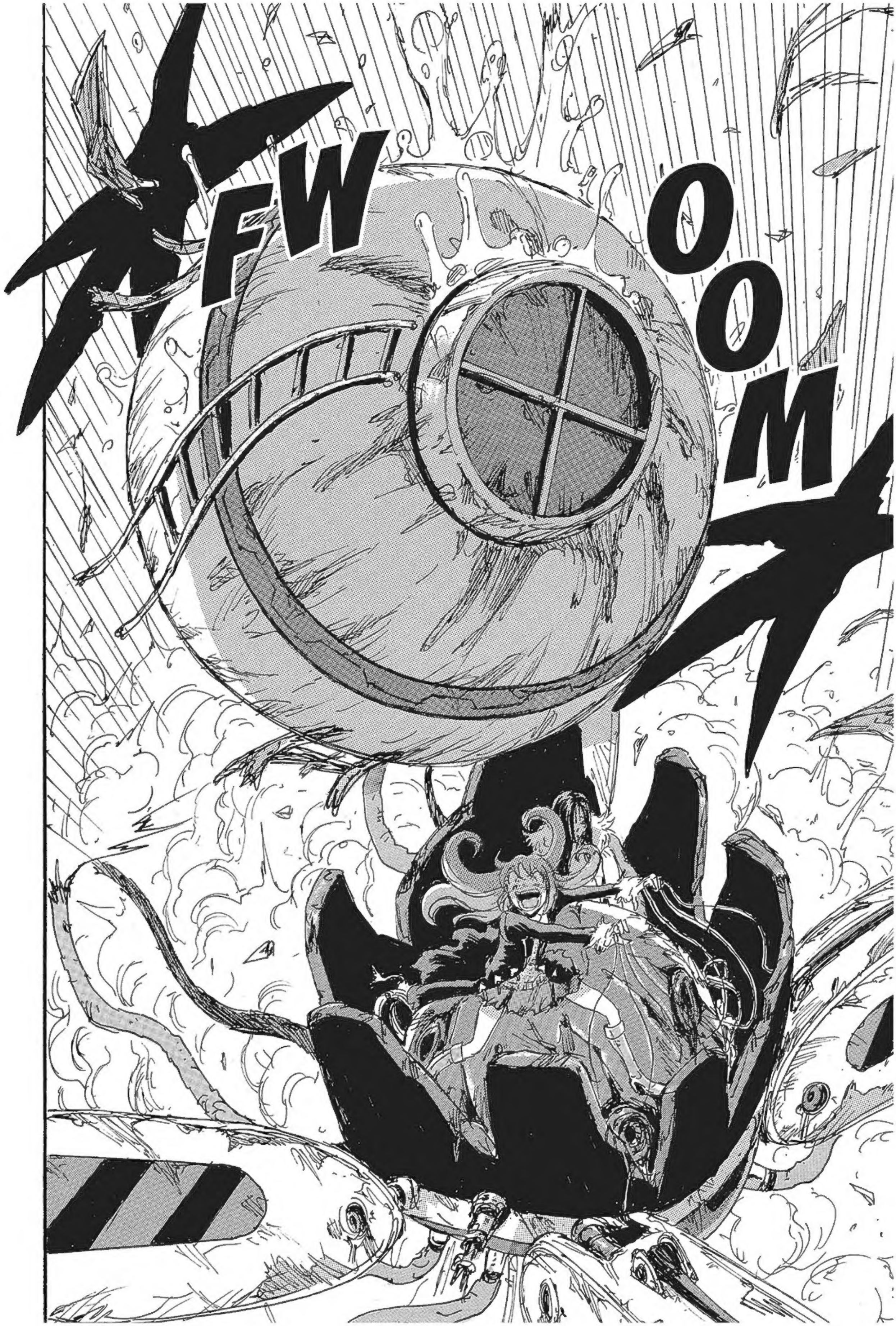

GOJIRO
GENNAI
FOREMAN KUROBE
IBUKI
NO-SENSE

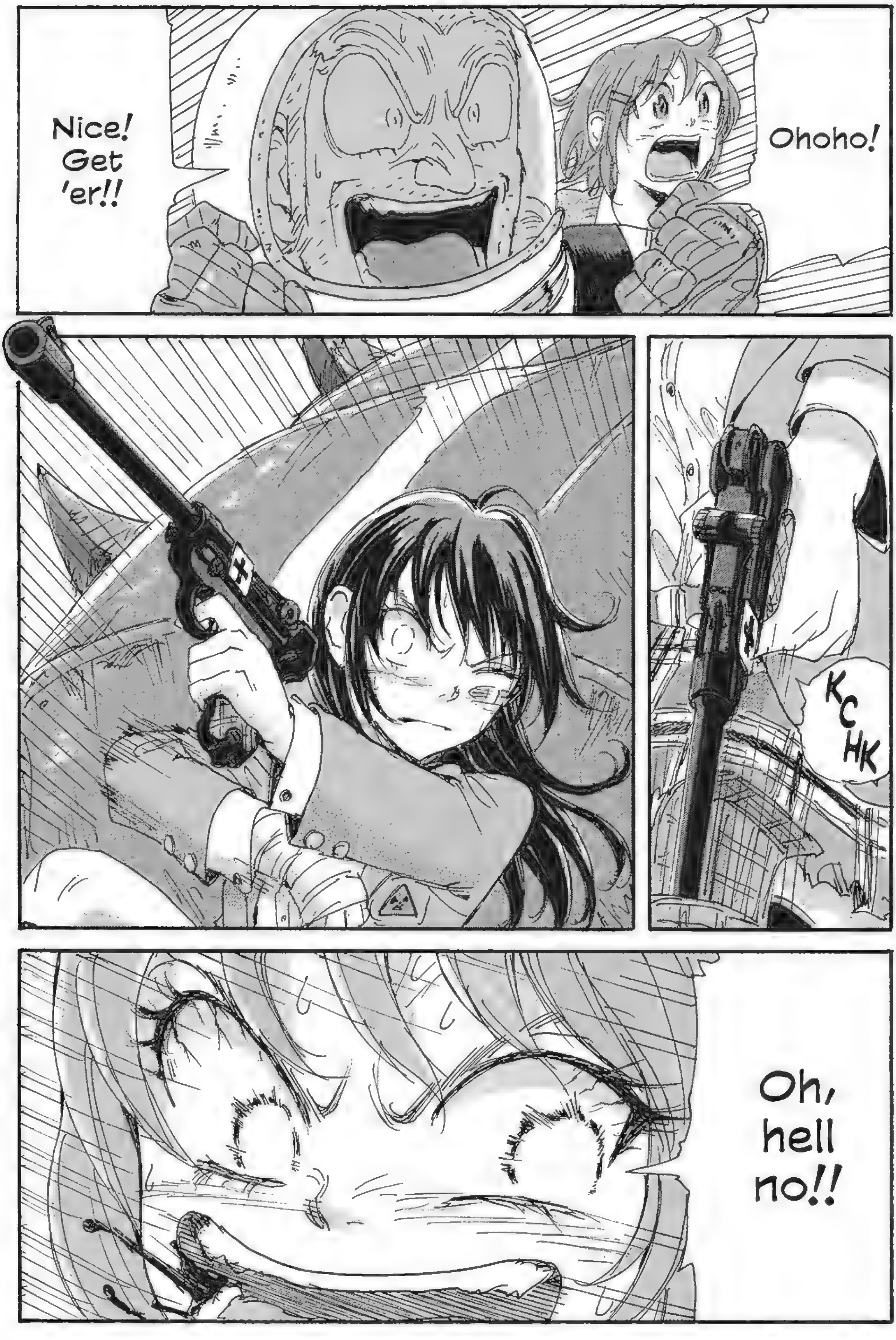
THE MITAKA CITY SURVIVORS

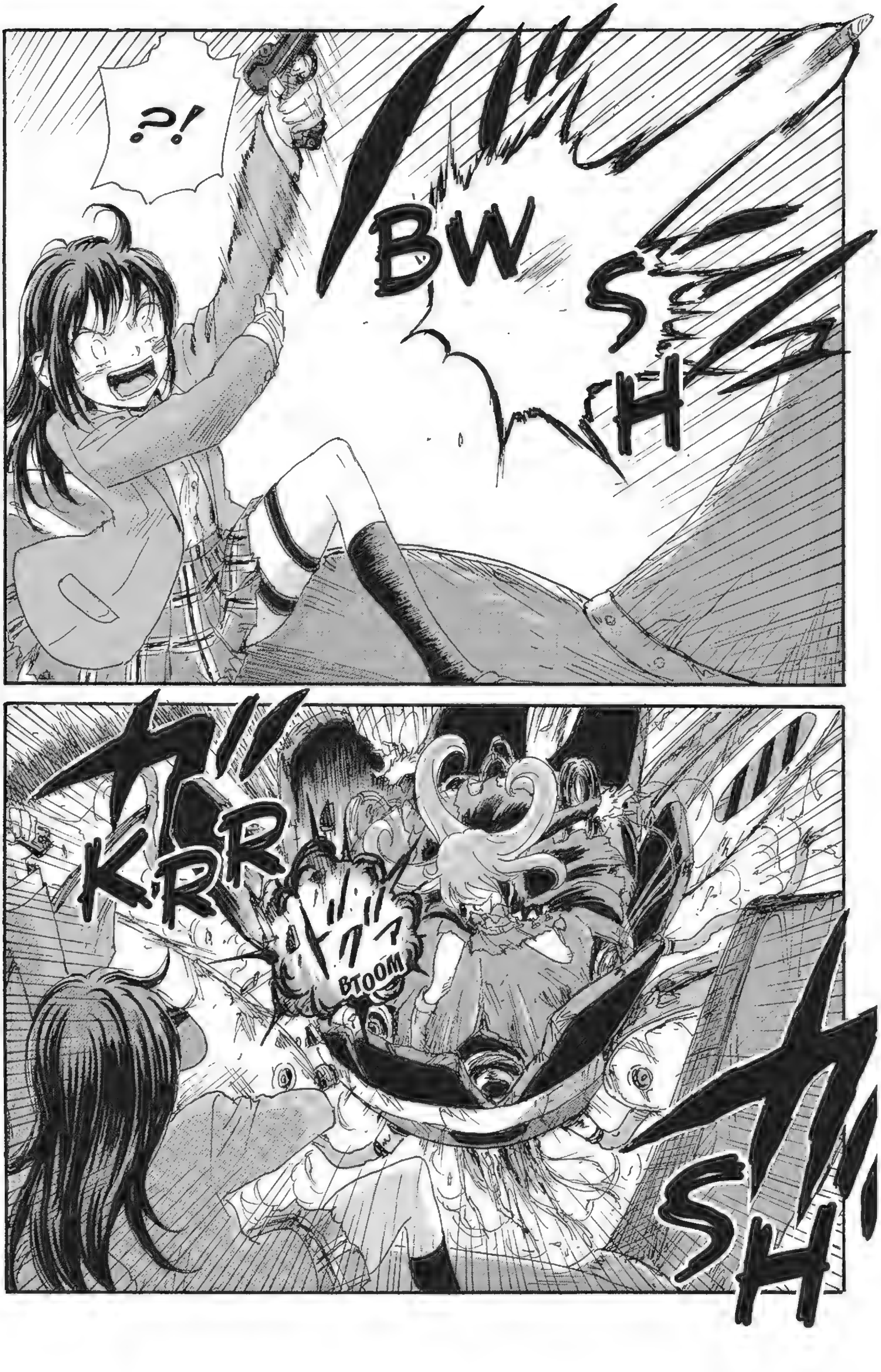
The survivors who live within the Chofu-Mitaka area include the pregnant Ibuki, her father Gojiro, a construction foreman named Kurobe, Gennai the repairman, and robot guide No-sense. They've been living in a JAXA facility they call "Planet" for twenty years, ever since the nuclear meltdown, but with the "wind of death" carrying high-level radiation towards them, they've had to abandon Planet and aim to make their way to Shinjuku. Their lives depend on the success of Operation: Musashino Railway!

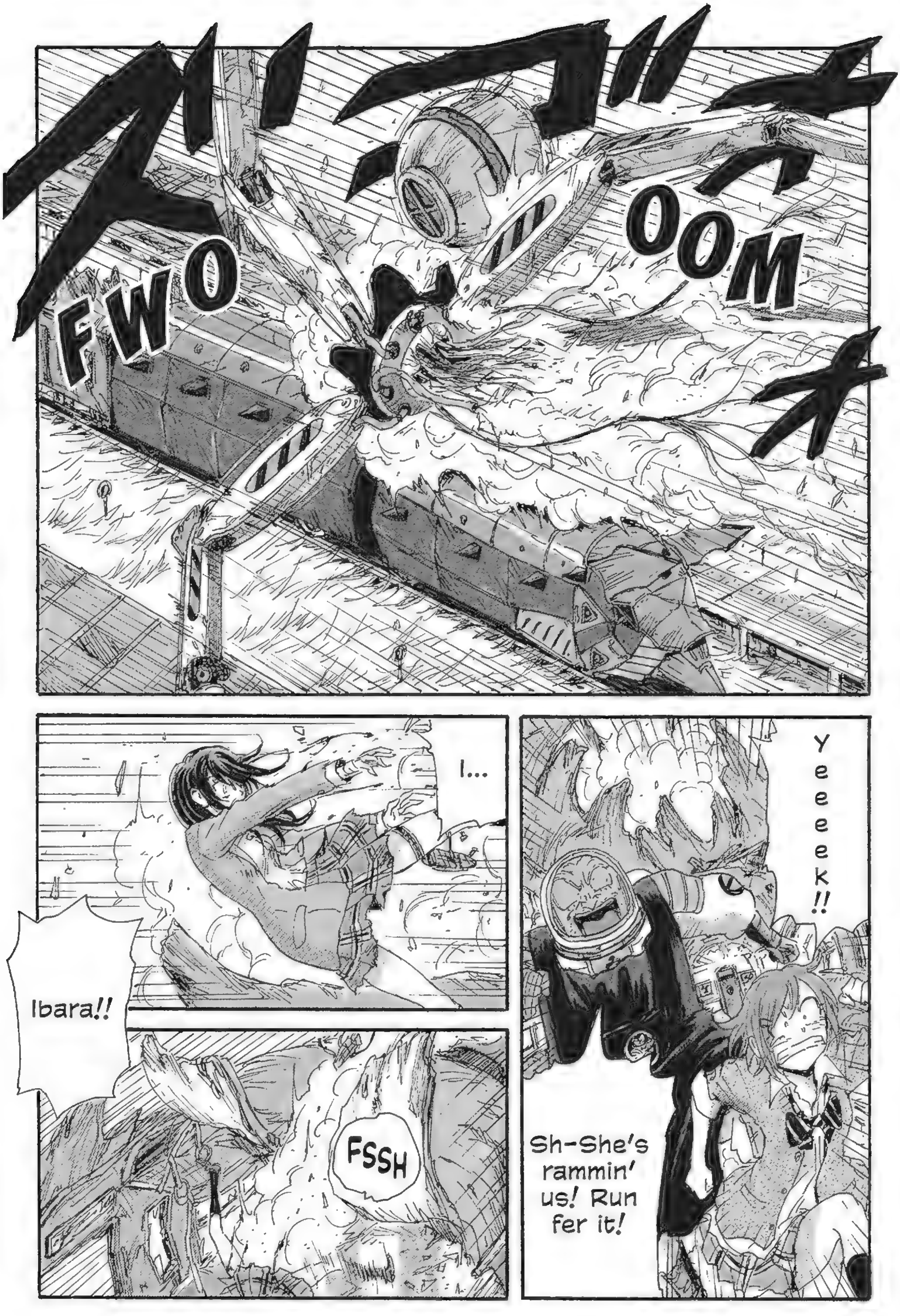
Mission.57【 Resolution 】

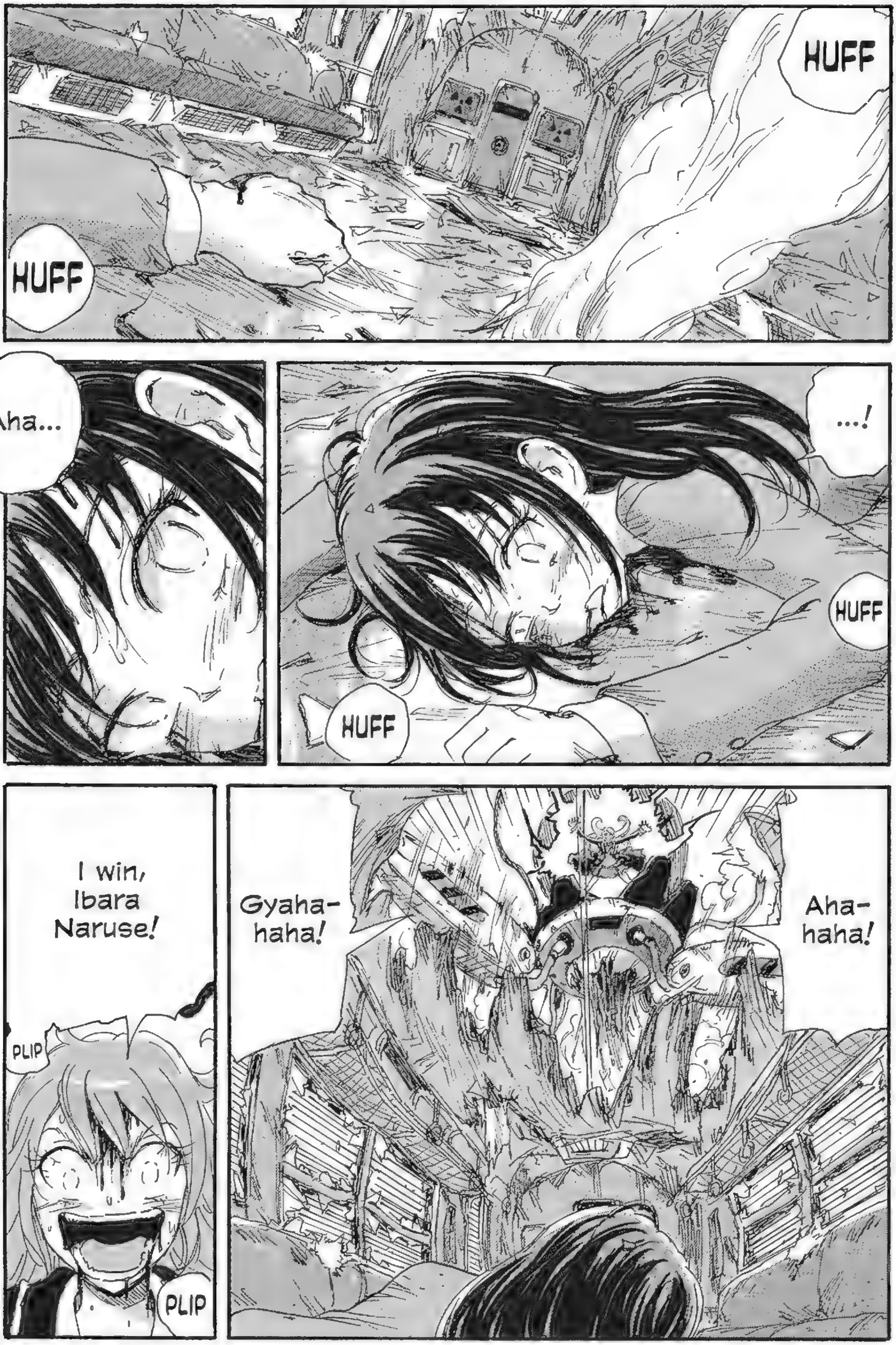

KA BOOM
Wh...
What's that?!
A water tank!
That'll cool your head!!

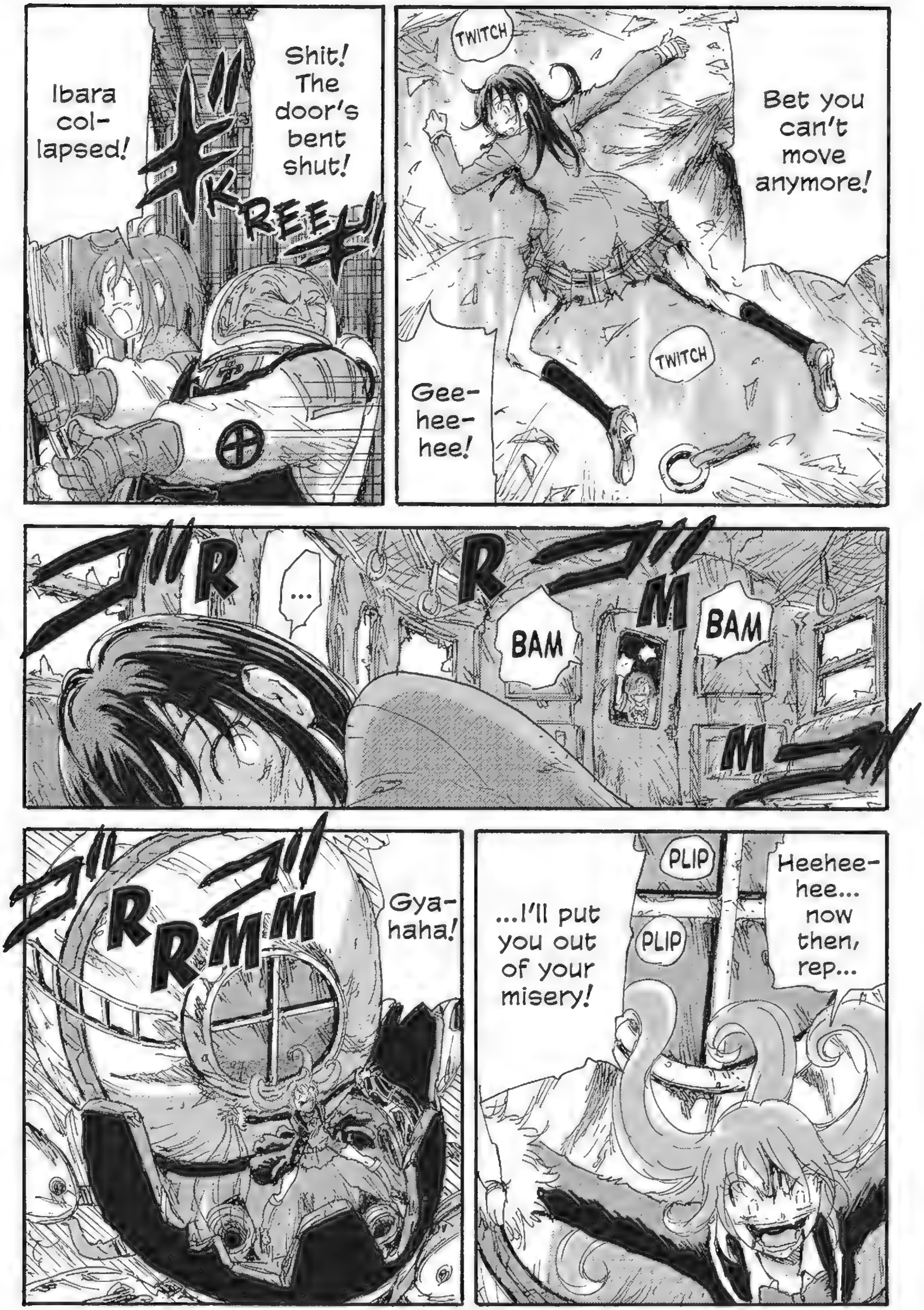

FWOOM

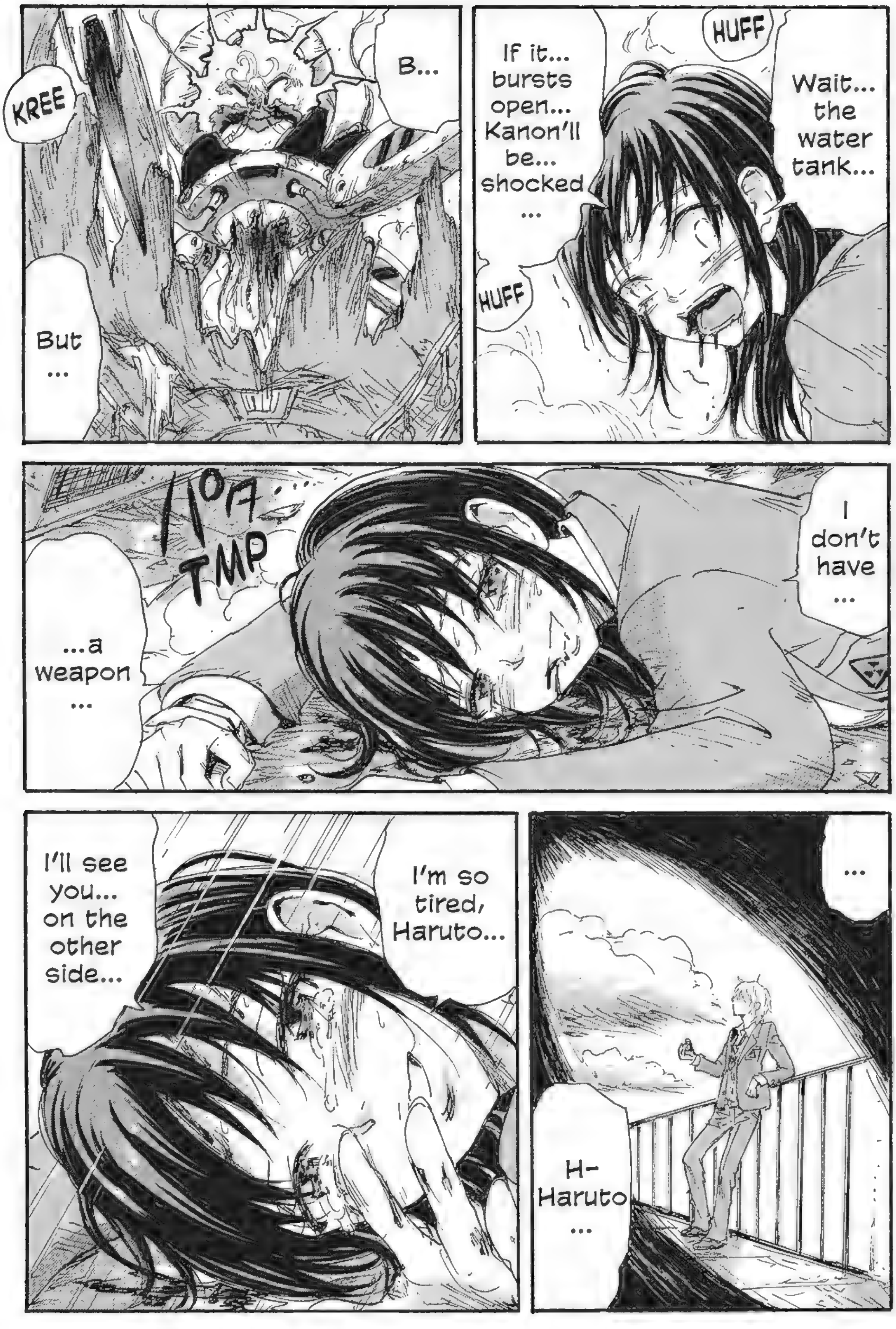

Ohoho!
Nice! Get 'er!!
KCHK
Oh, hell no!!

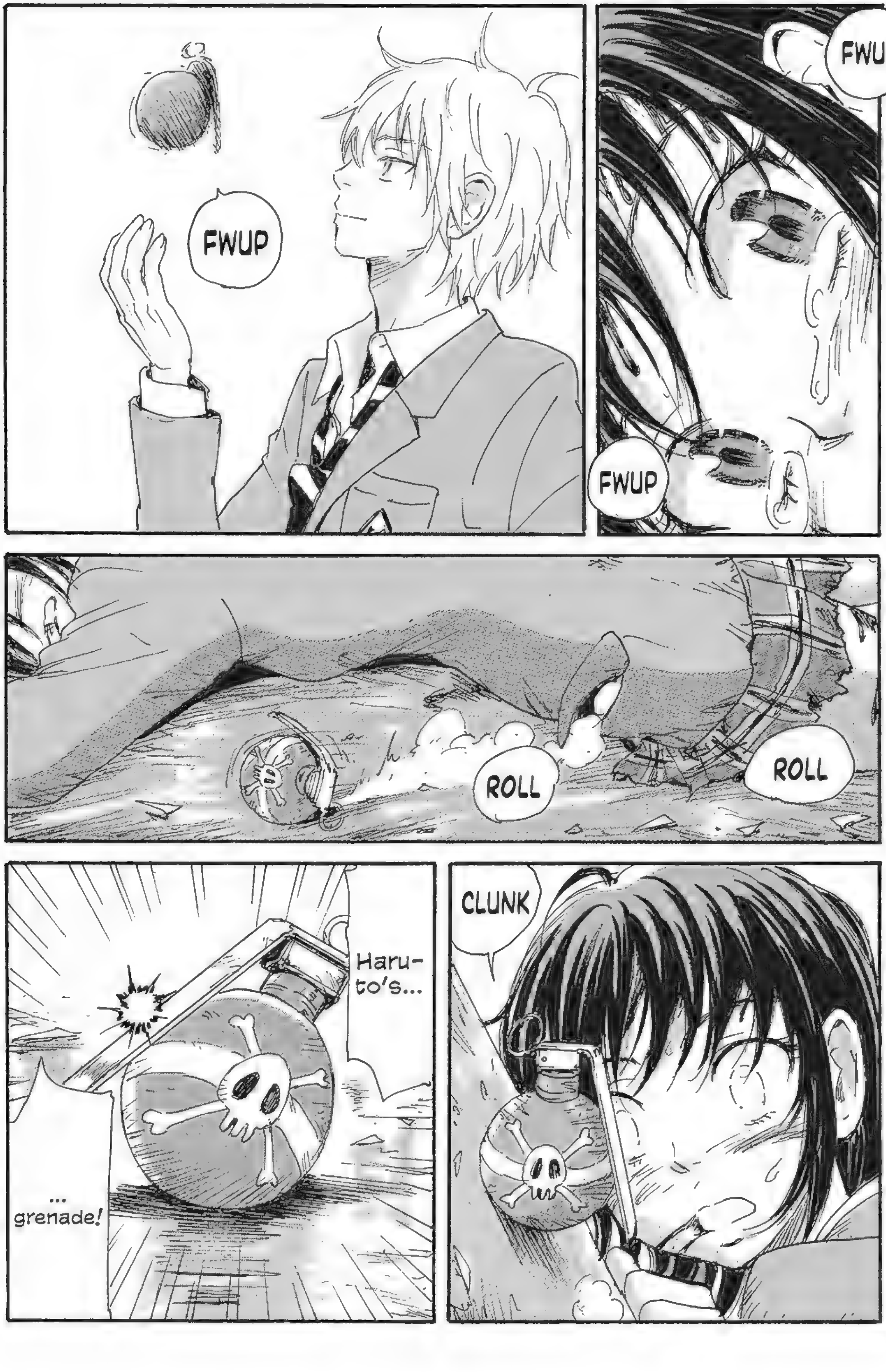

BWSH
?!
SH
BTOOM
KRRR

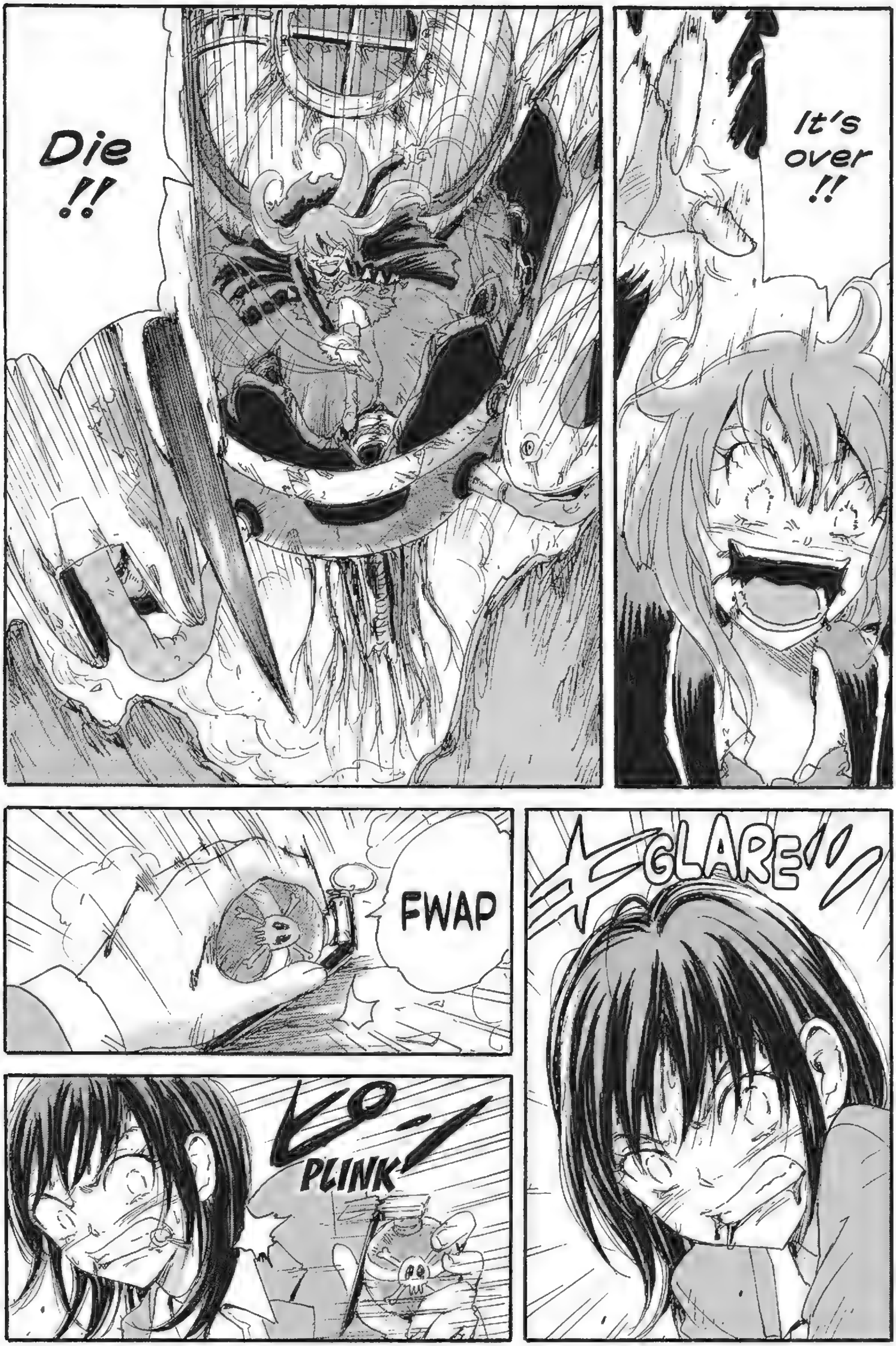

FWOOOM
Yeeeek!!
Sh-She's rammin' us! Run fer it!
I...
Ibara!!
FSSH

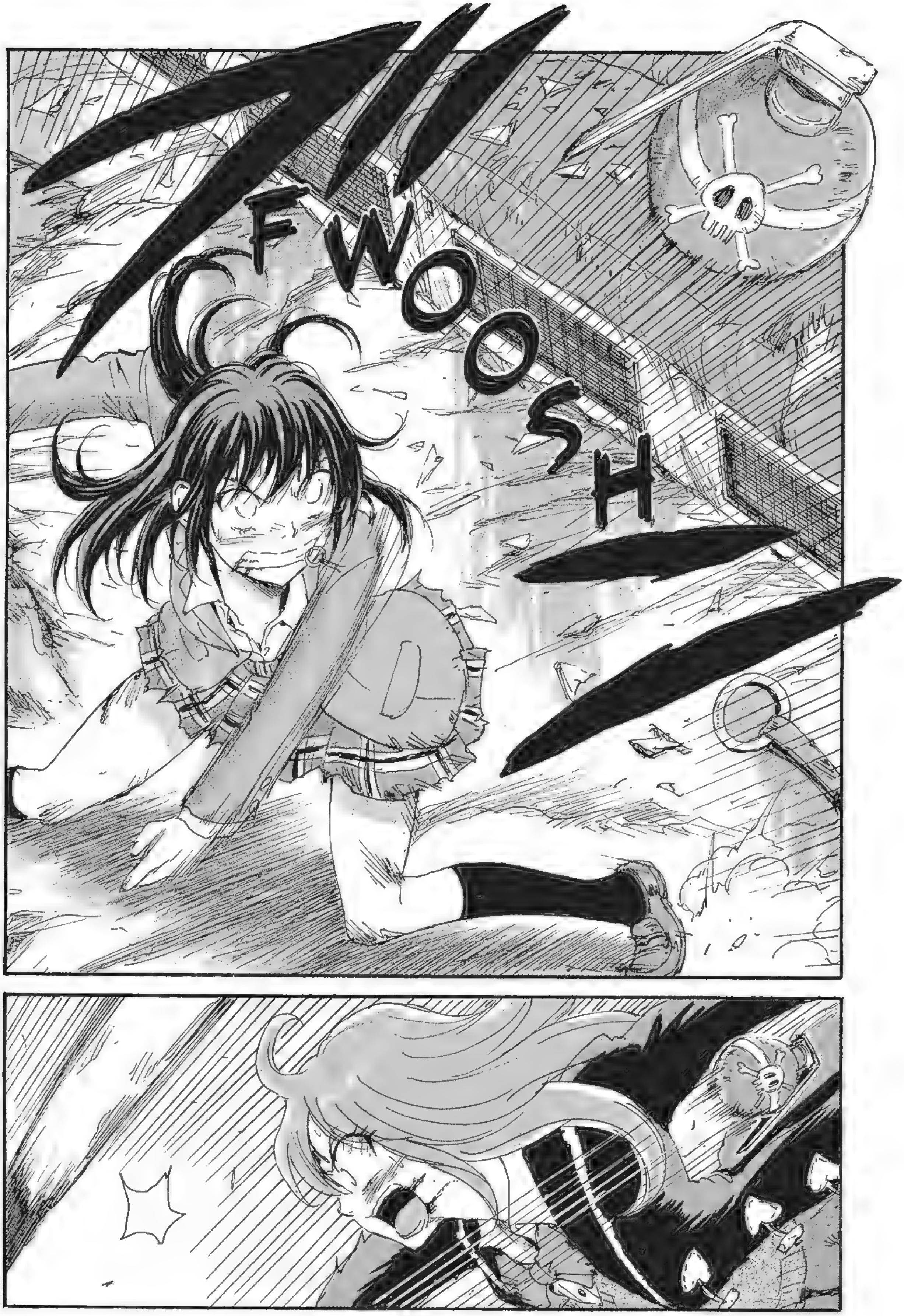

HUFF
HUFF
...!
HUFF
HUFF
Aha...
Aha-haha!
Gyaha-haha!
I win, Ibara Naruse!
PLIP
PLIP

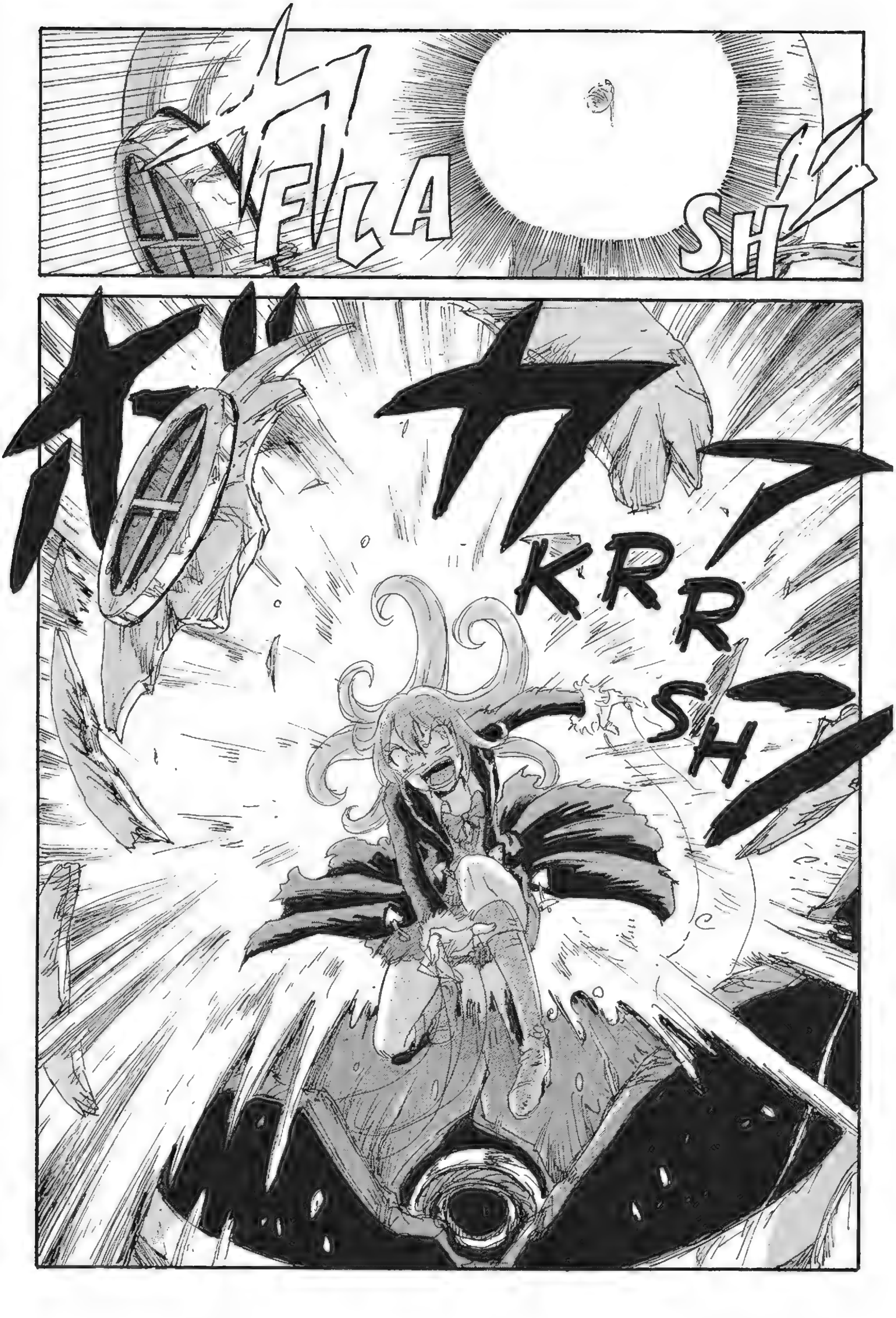

TWITCH
Bet you can't move anymore!
TWITCH
Gee-hee-hee!
Shit! The door's bent shut!
KREEE
Ibara collapsed!
MM
BAM
BAM
RR
...
Heeheehee... now then, rep...
PLIP
PLIP
...I'll put you out of your misery!
Gya-haha!
RRMM

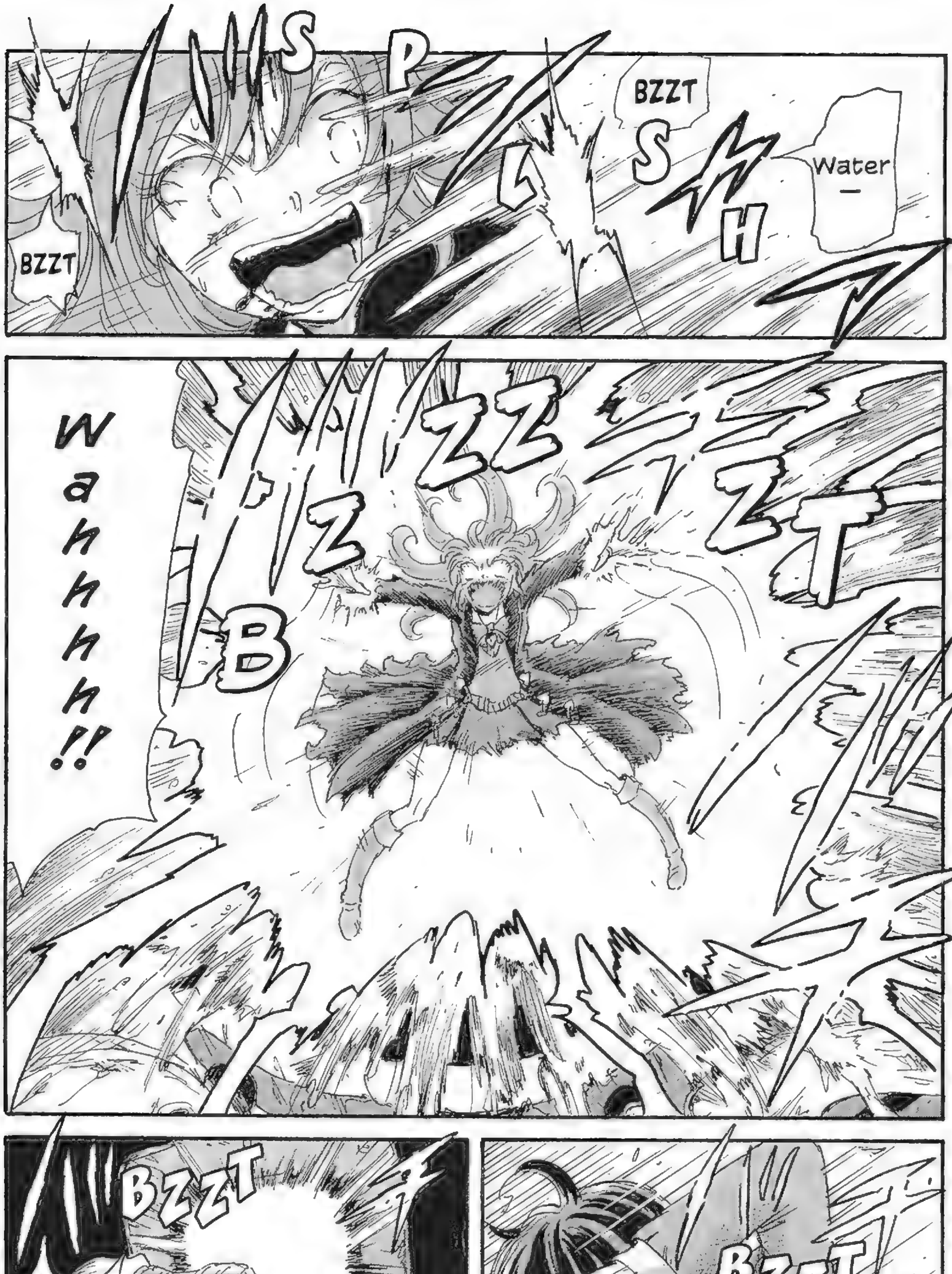

HUFF
Wait... the water tank...
If it... bursts open... Kanon'll be... shocked...
HUFF
B...
KREE
But...
I don't have...
TMP
...a weapon...
...
H-Haruto...
I'm so tired, Haruto...
I'll see you... on the other side...

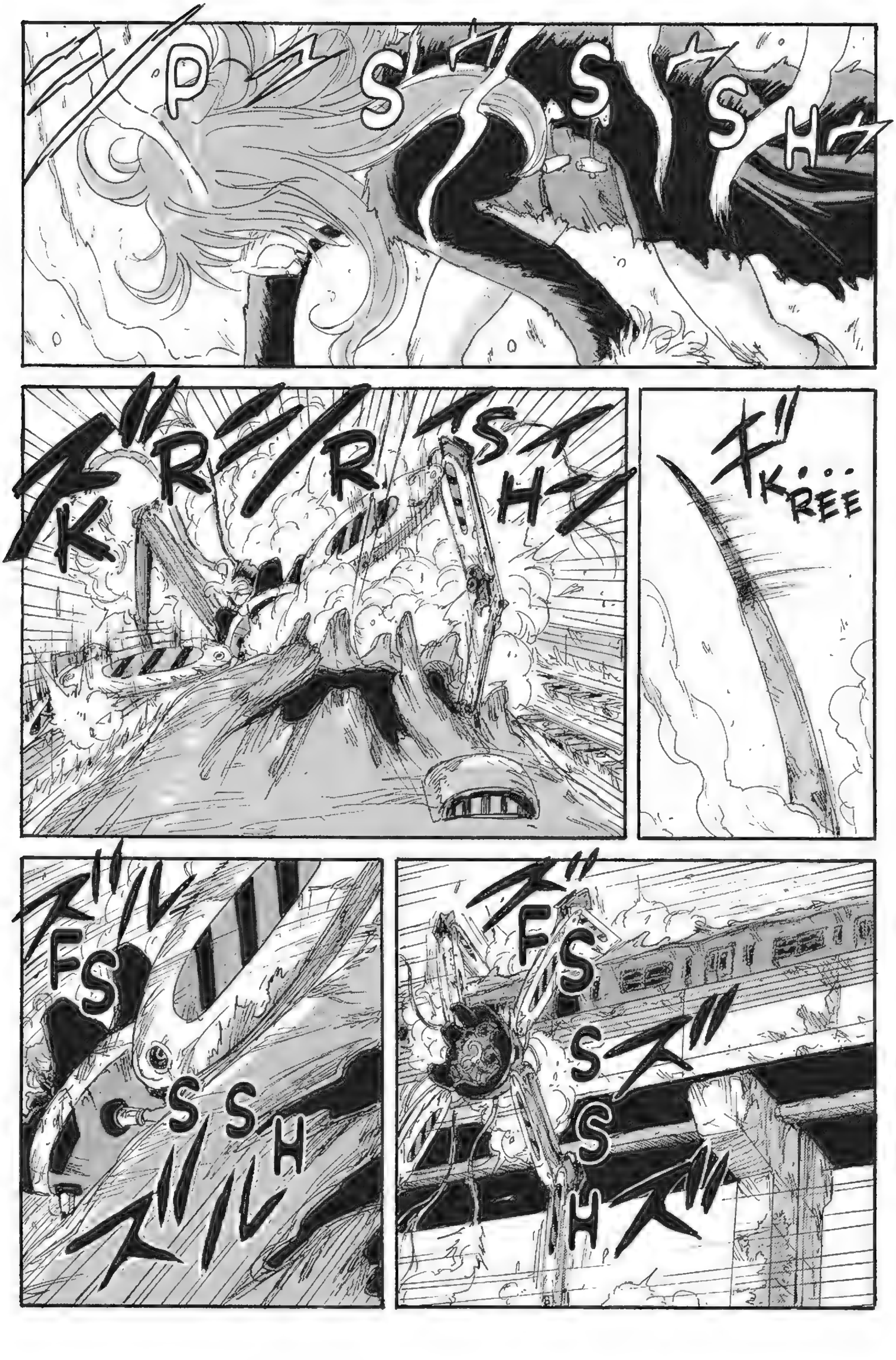

FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
ROLL
ROLL
Haru-to's...
...grenade!
CLUNK

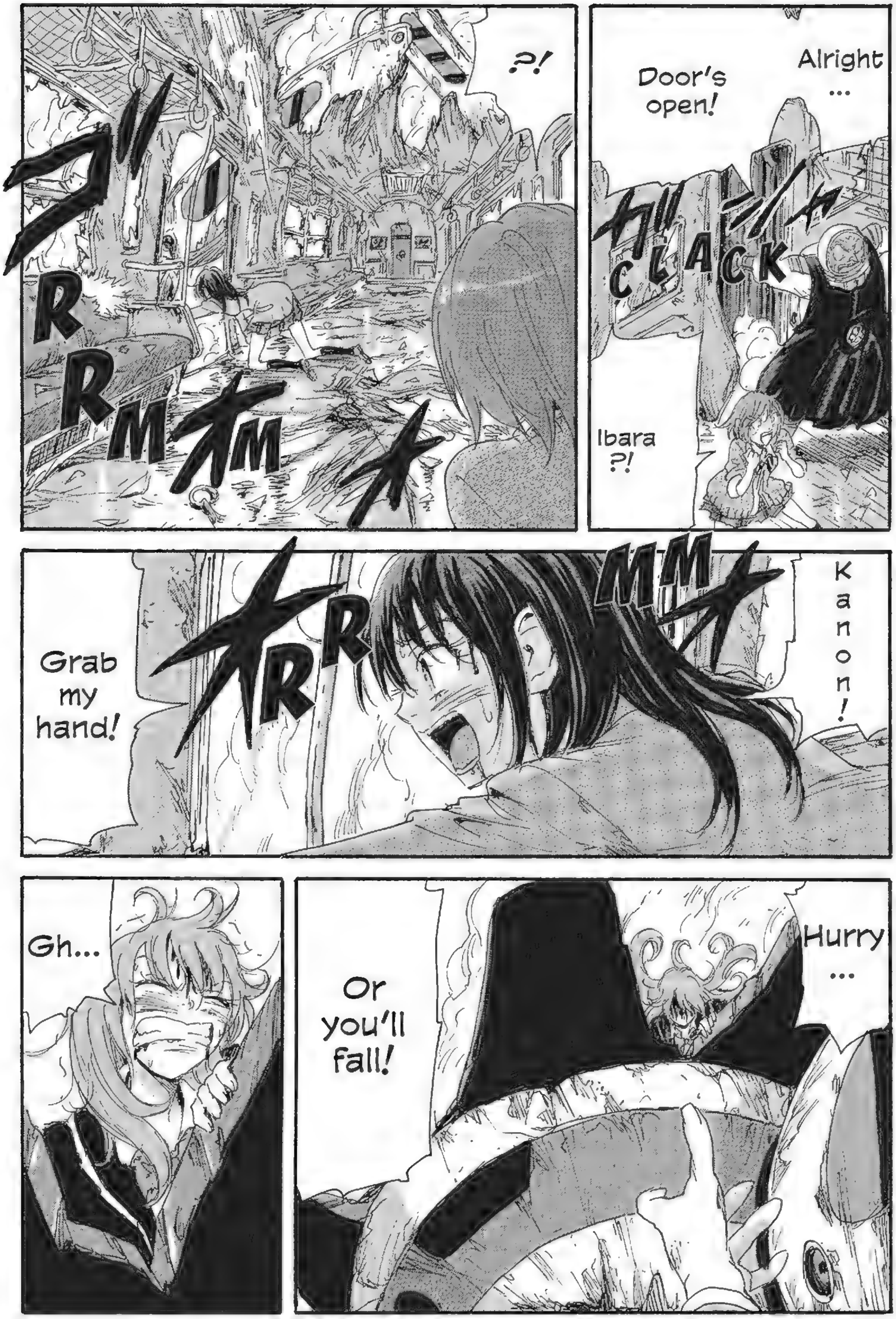

It's over !!
Die !!
GLARE
FWAP
ピー!
PLINK

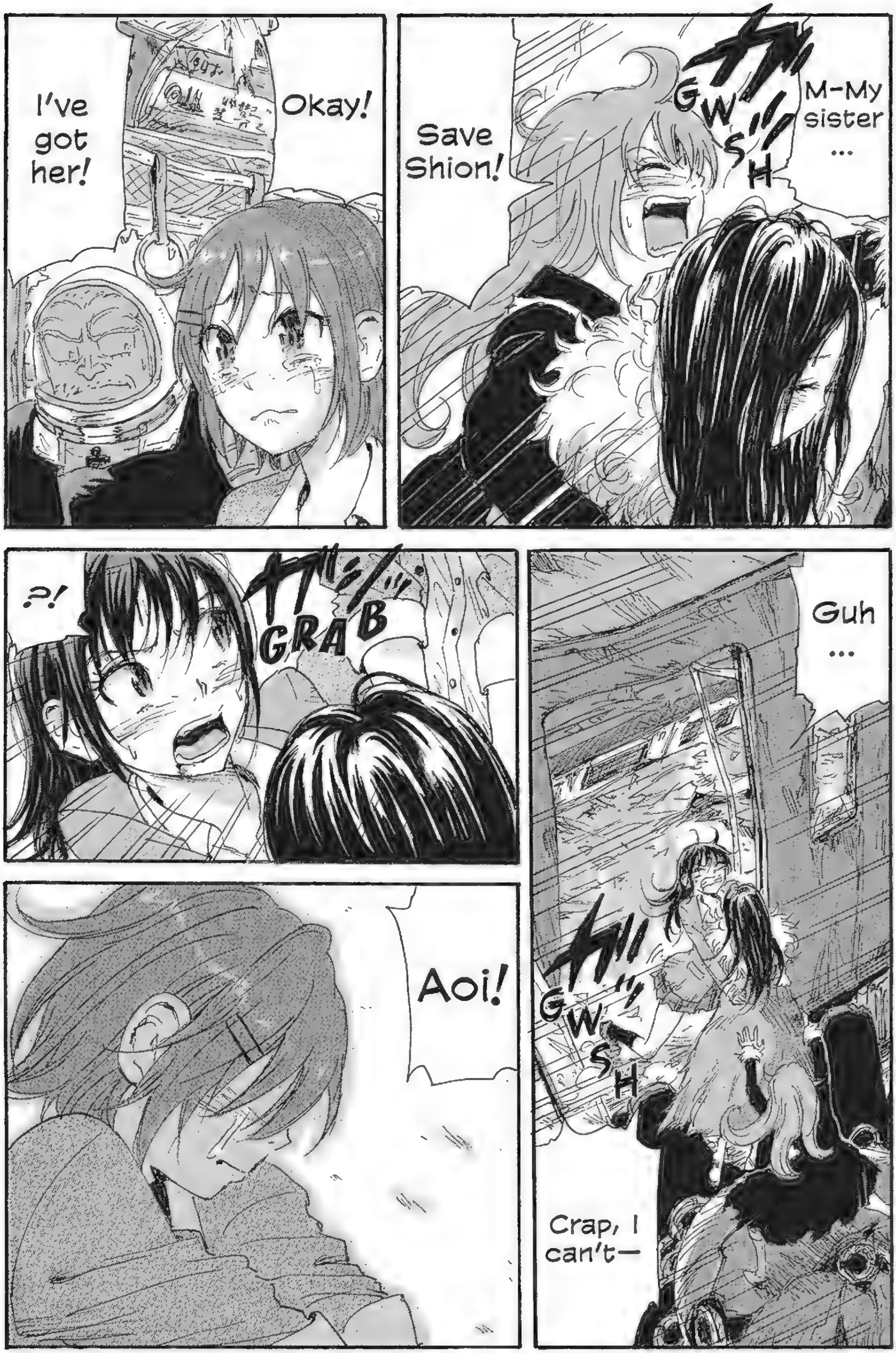

FWOOSH

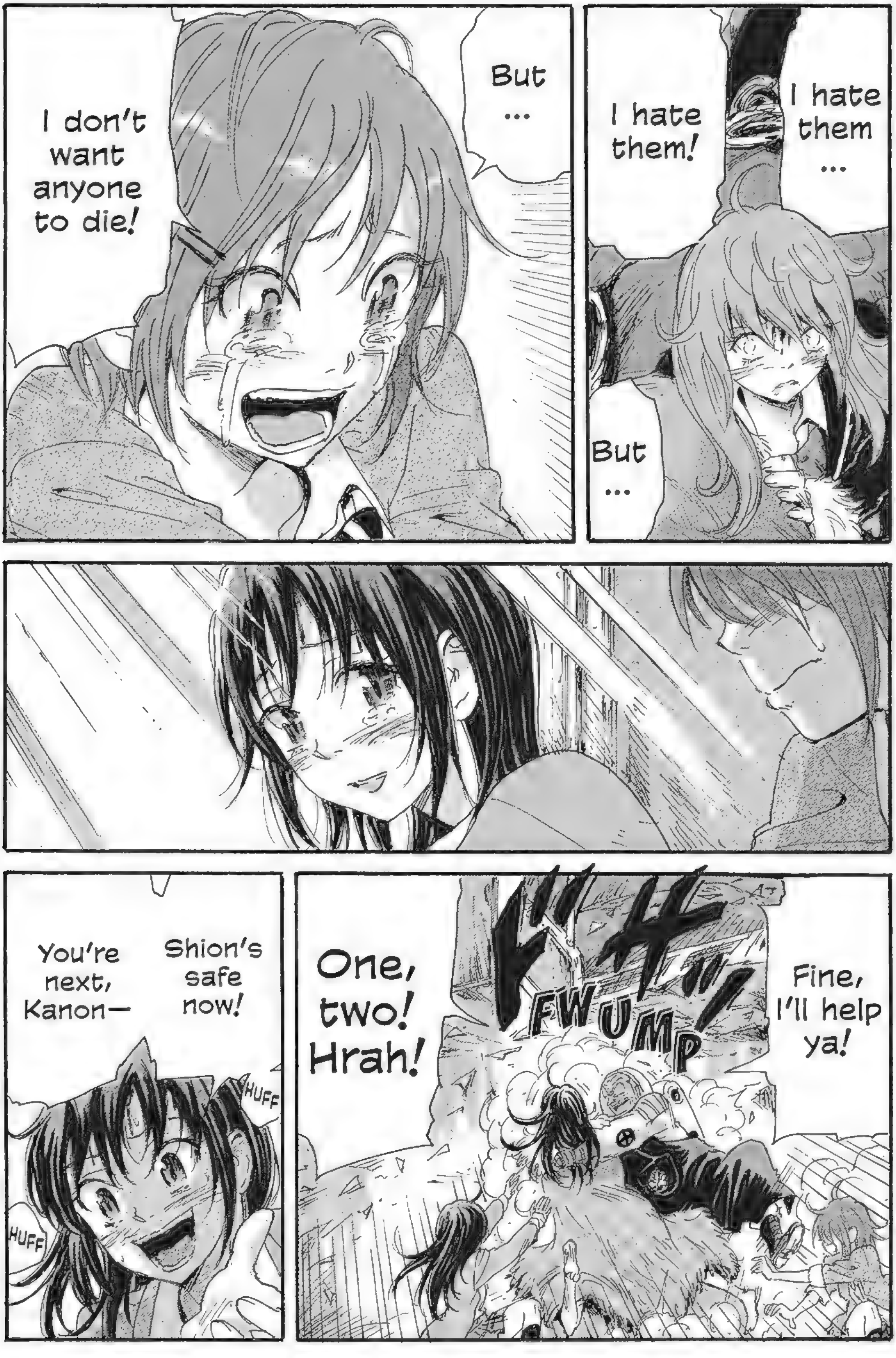

FLASH
KRRRSH

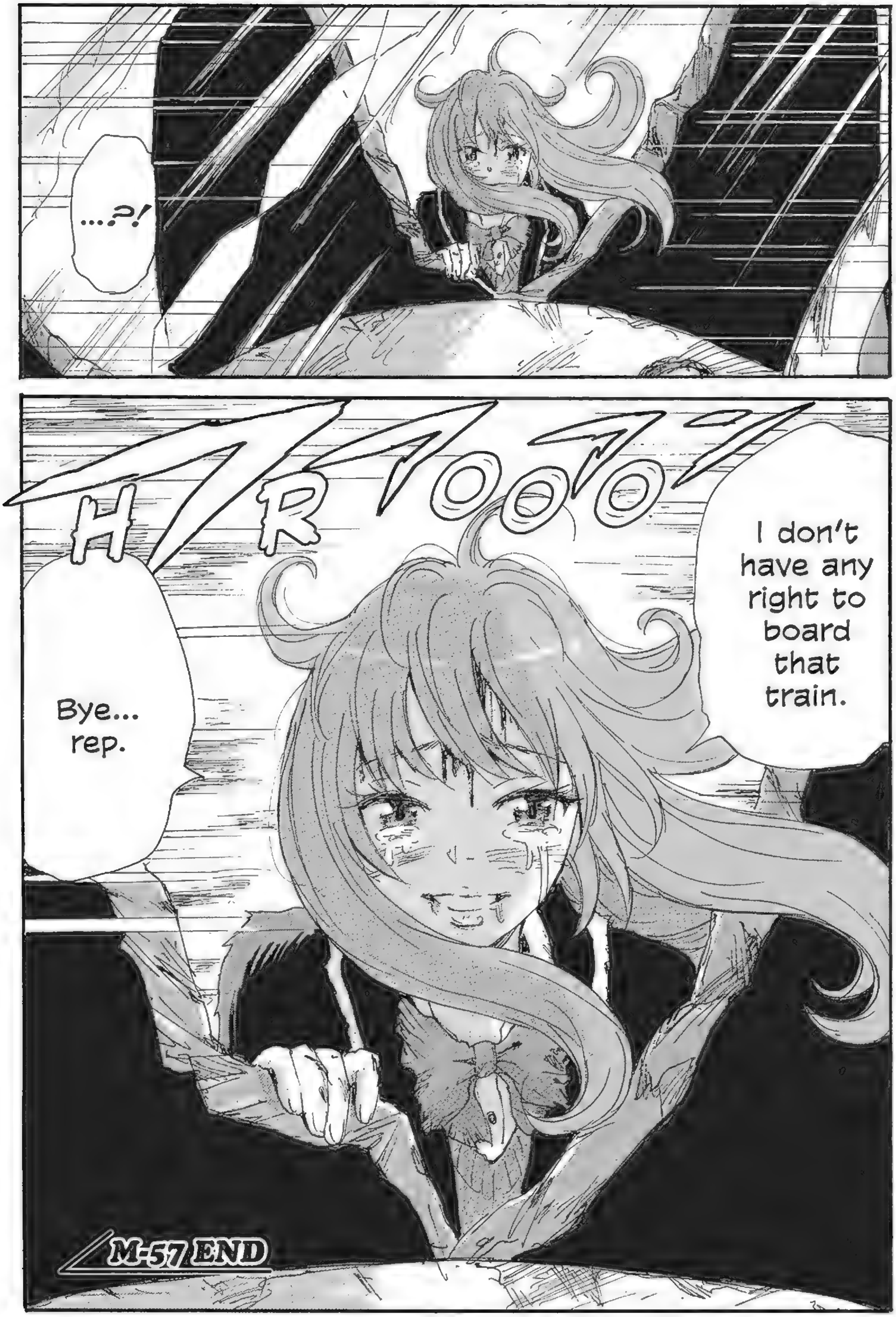

Water —
BZZT
SPLASH
BZZT
BZZZZZT
Wahhhhhh!!
...
BZZT
BZZT
Whoa !!


PSSSH
ギ
K... REE
KRRSH
FSSSSH
FSSSH

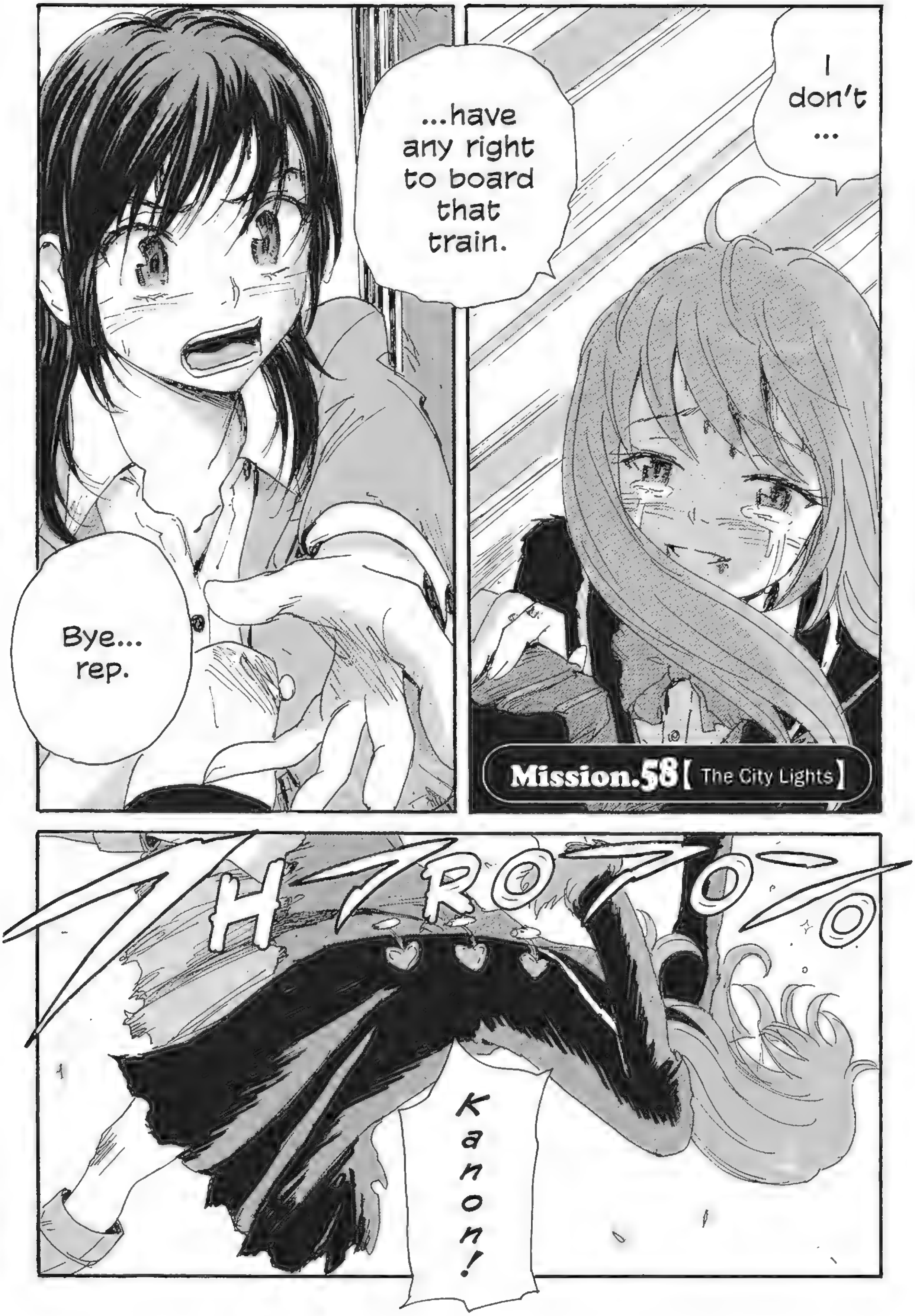

Alright ...
Door's open!
CLACK
Ibara ?!
?!
RRMM
Kanon!
RRMM
Grab my hand!
Hurry ...
Or you'll fall!
Gh...

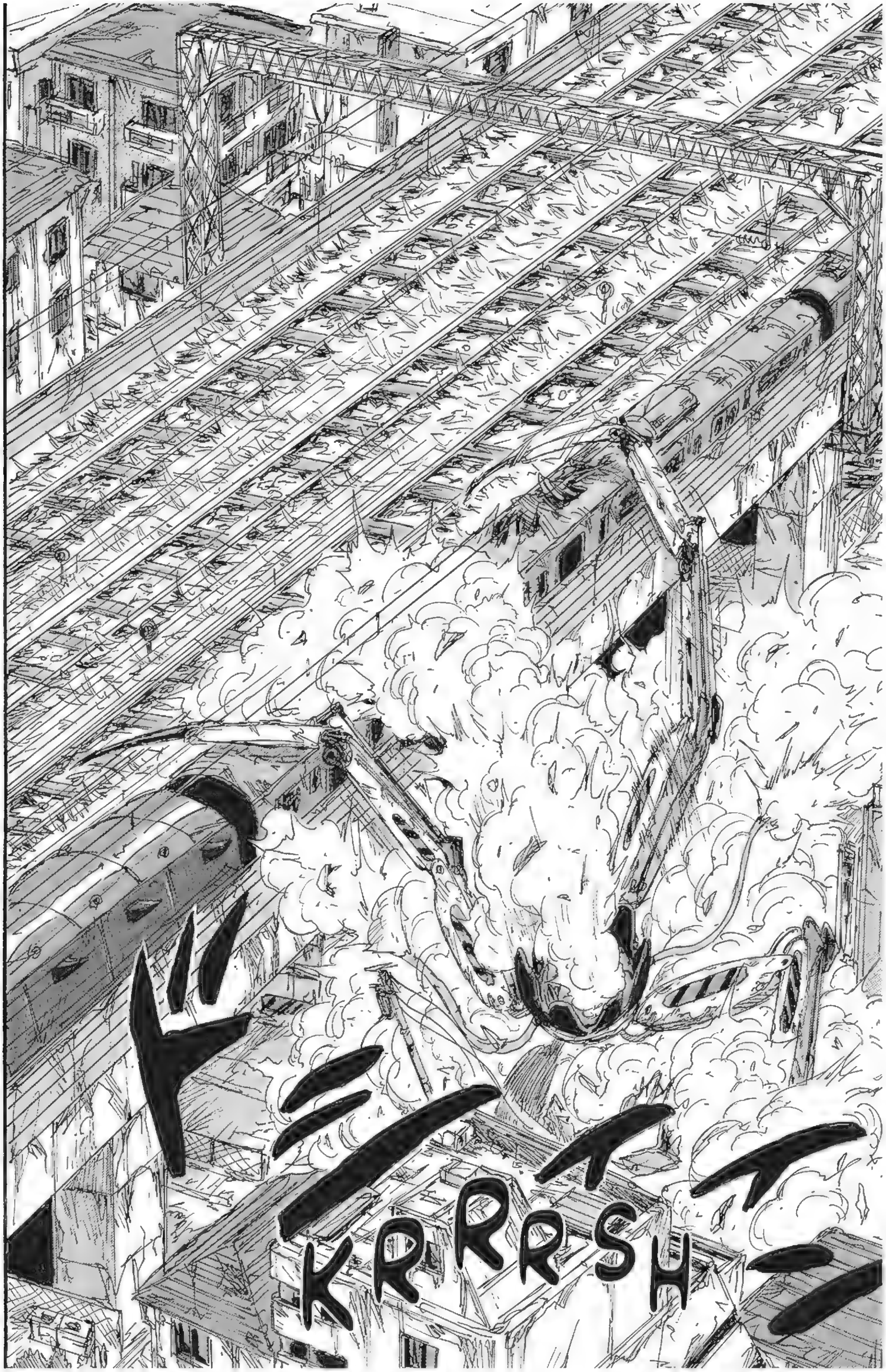

M-My sister...
GWSH
Save Shion!
Okay!
I've got her!
Guh...
GWSH
Crap, I can't—
GRAB
?!
Aoi!

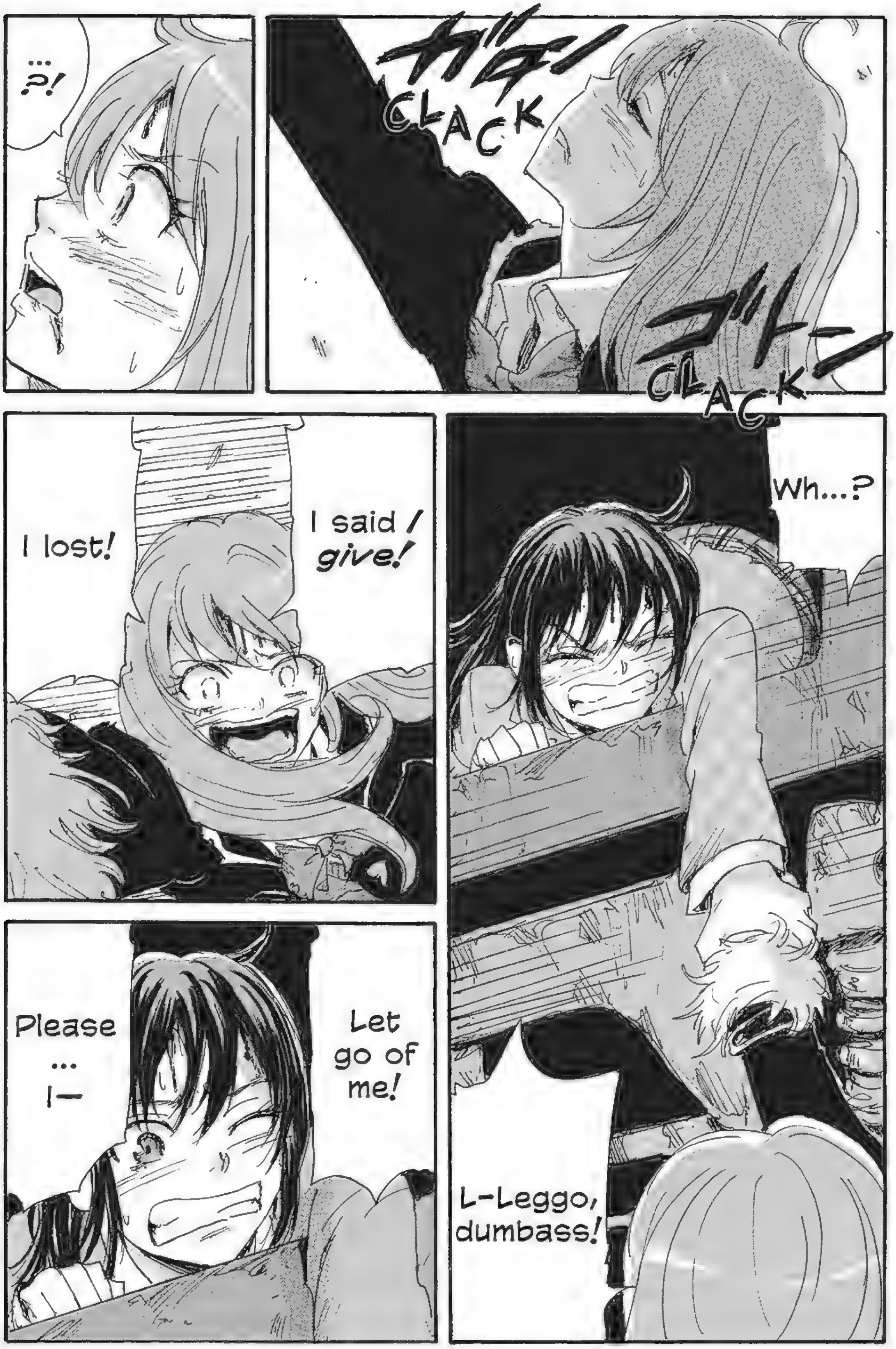

I hate them ...
I hate them!
But ...
But ...
I don't want anyone to die!
Fine, I'll help ya!
FWUMP!
One, two! Hrah!
Shion's safe now!
You're next, Kanon—
HUFF
HUFF

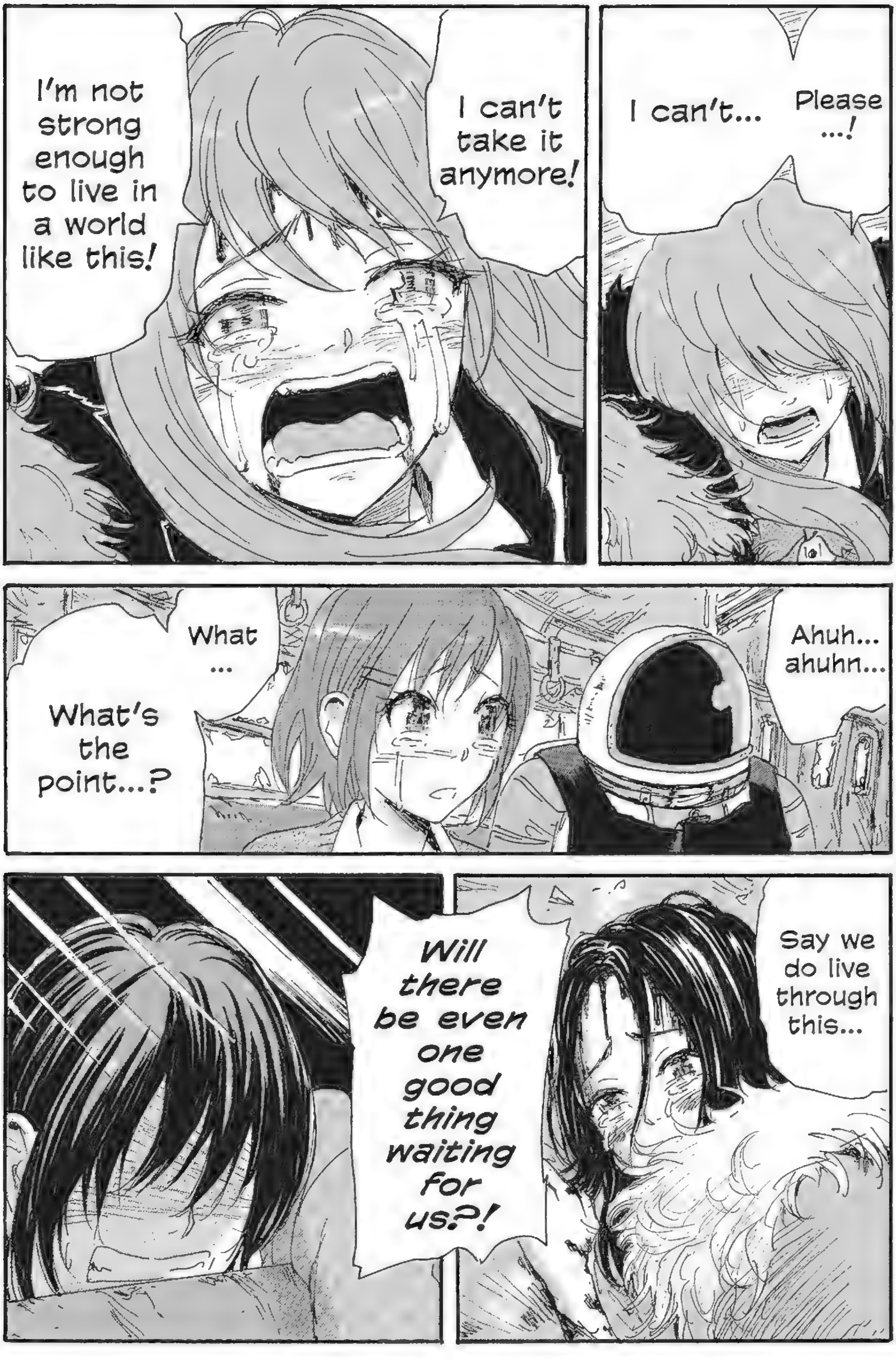

...?!
HROOOO
I don't have any right to board that train.
Bye... rep.
M-57 END

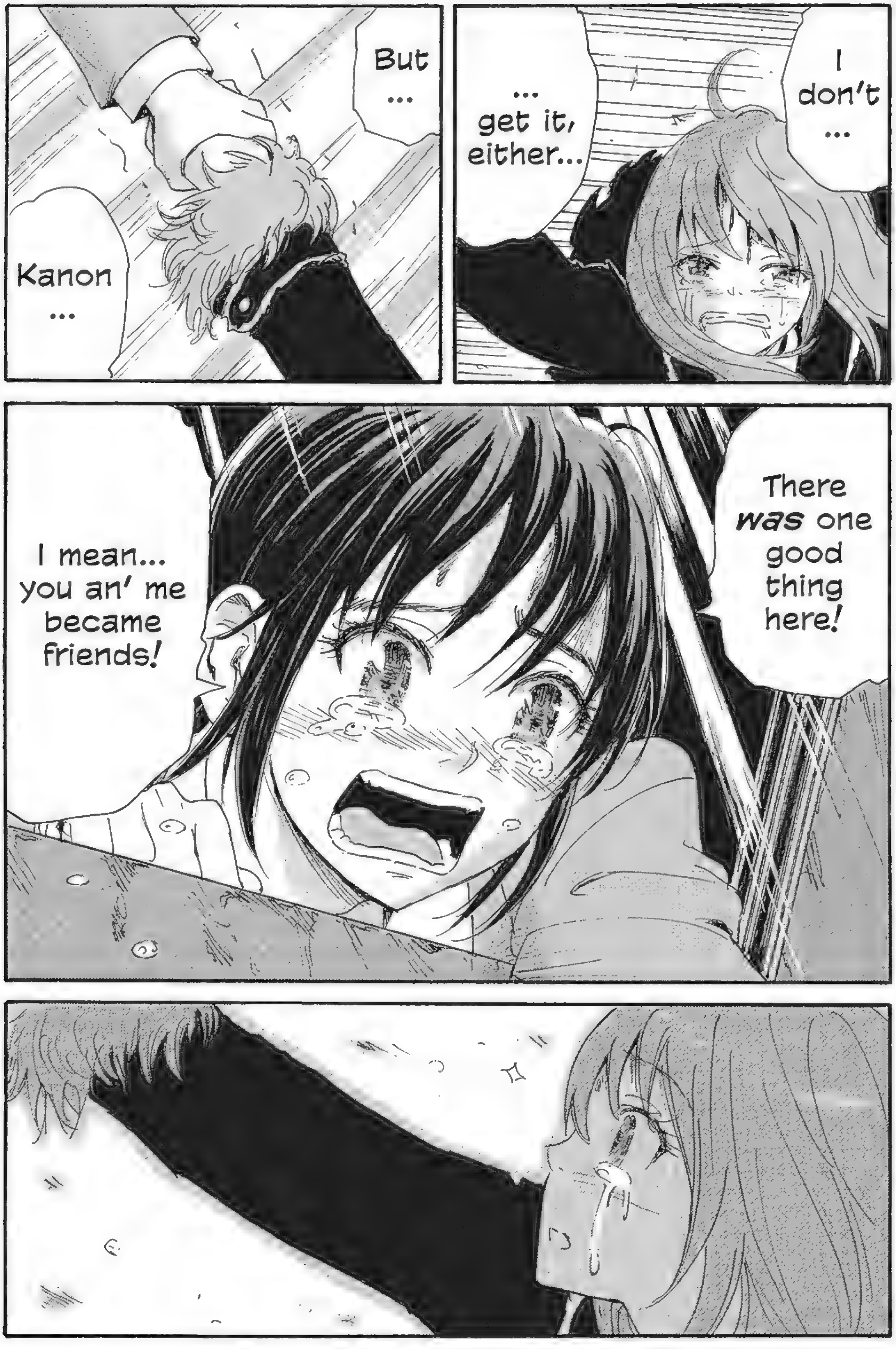
Mission.58【The City Lights】

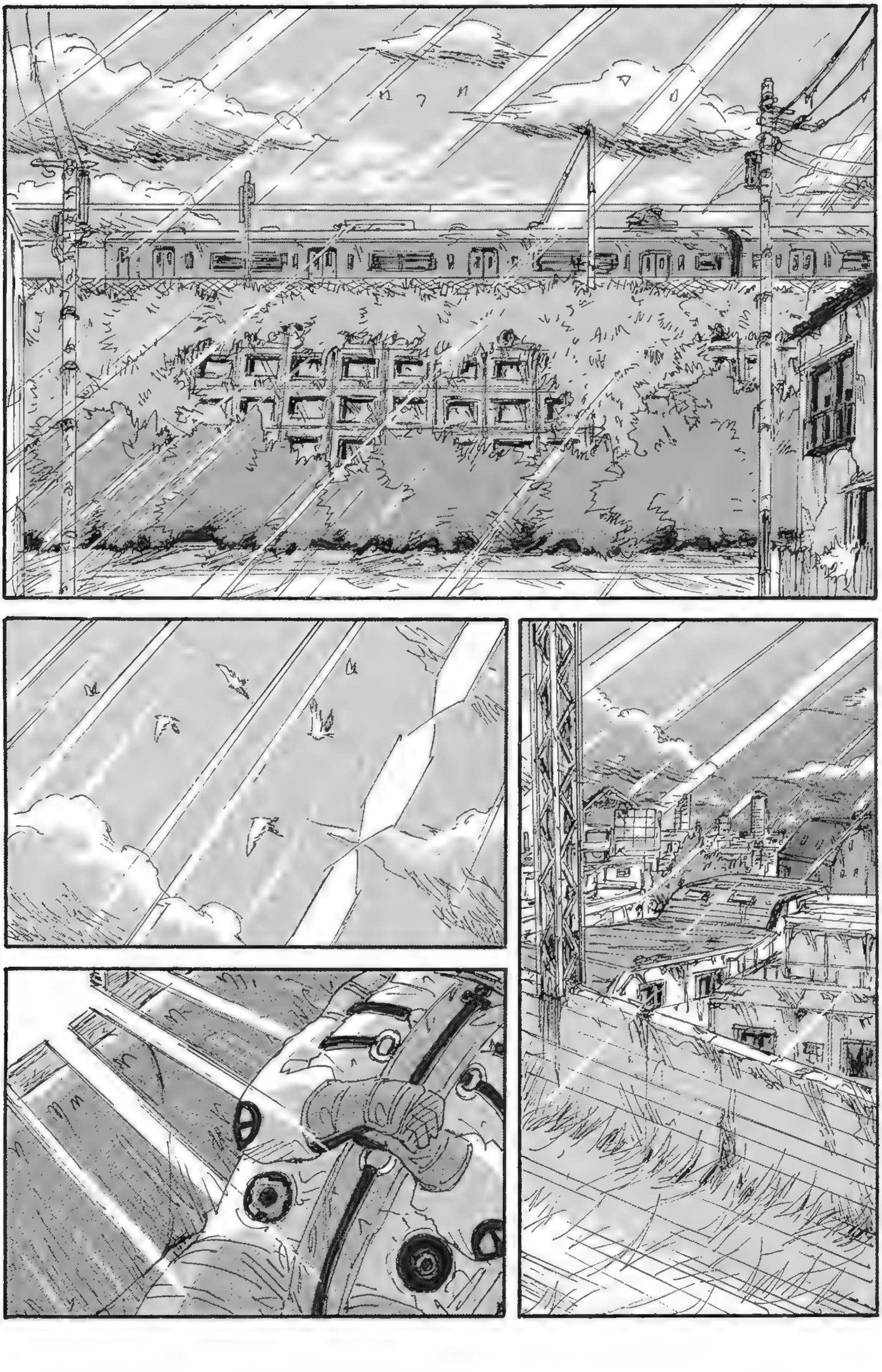

I don't ...
...have any right to board that train.
Bye... rep.
THROOOO
Kanon!

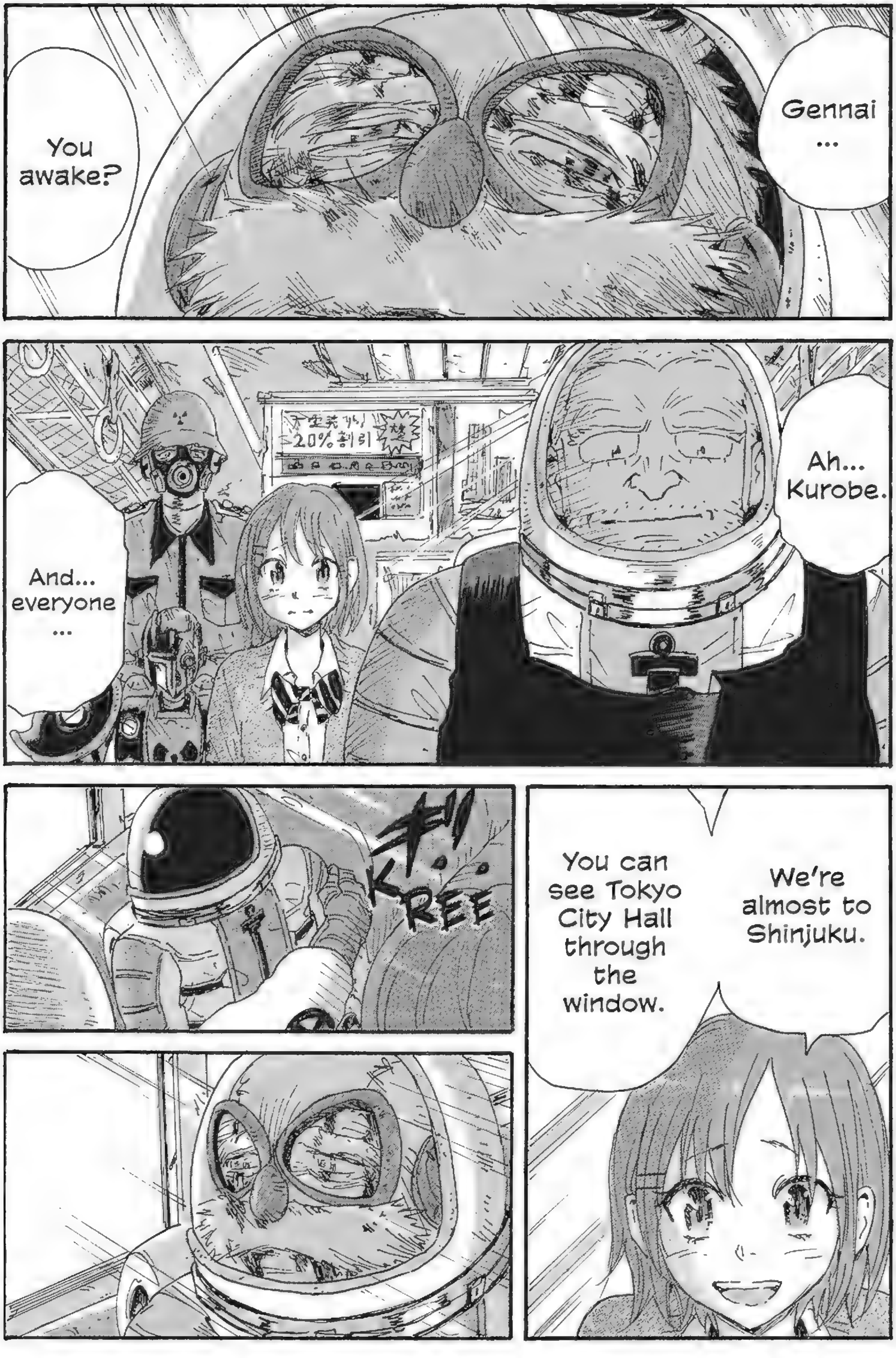

ドーーン
KRRRSH

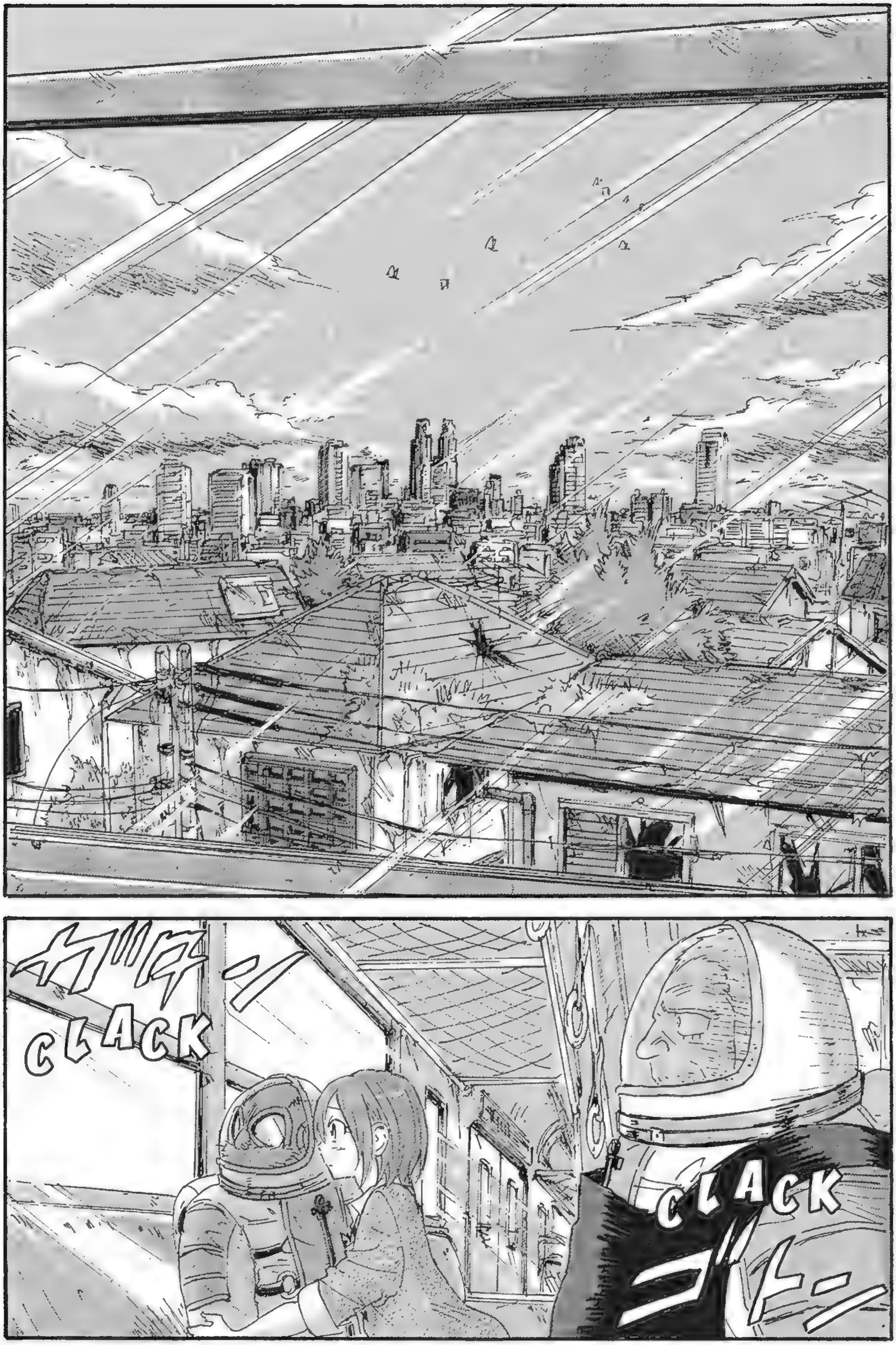

ガダ!
CLACK
ゴトー!
CLACK
...?!
Wh...?
L-Leggo, dumbass!
I said / give!
I lost!
Let go of me!
Please ... I—

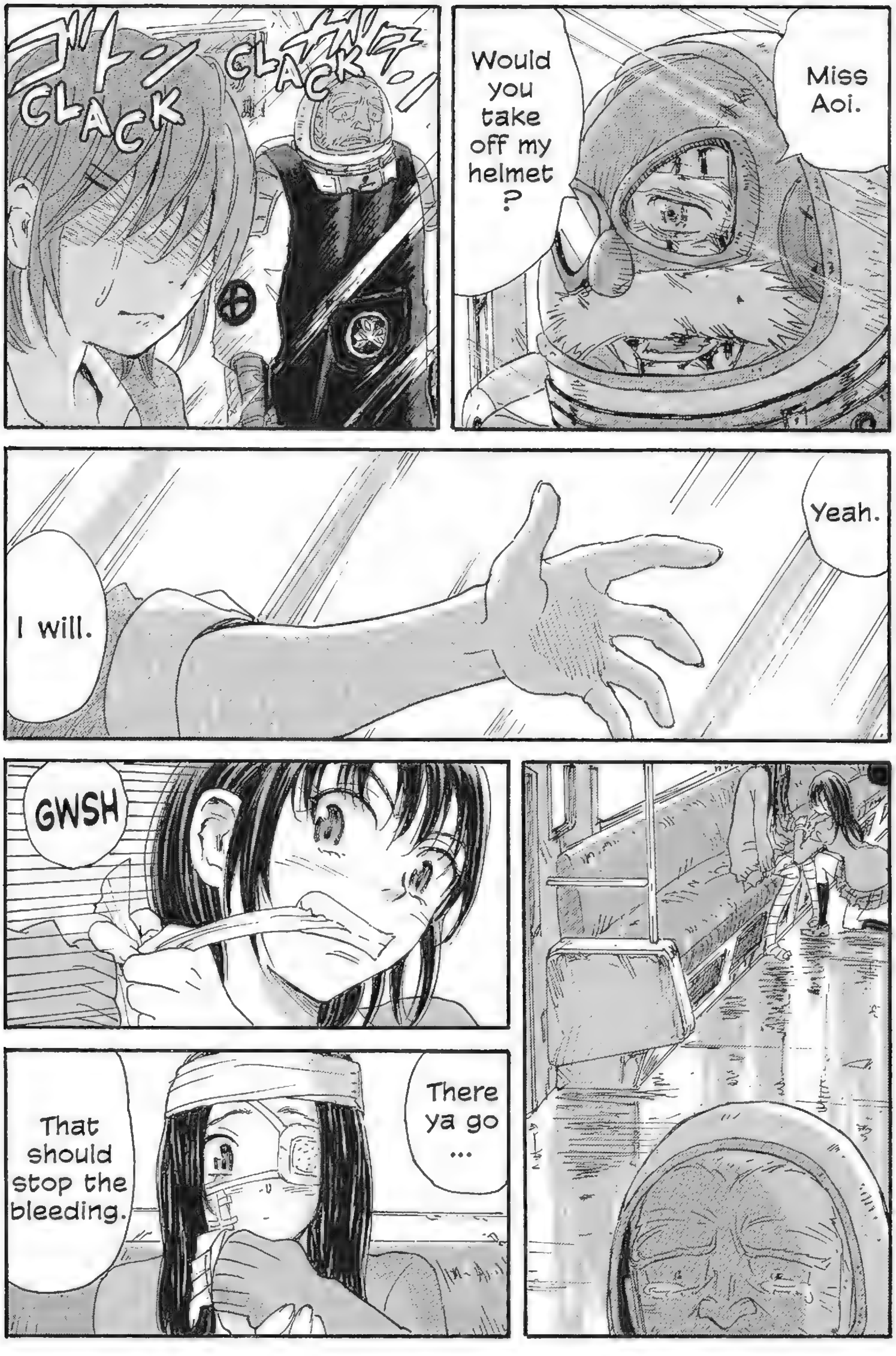

Please ...!
I can't...
I can't take it anymore!
I'm not strong enough to live in a world like this!
Ahuh... ahuhn...
What ...
What's the point...?
Say we do live through this...
Will there be even one good thing waiting for us?!

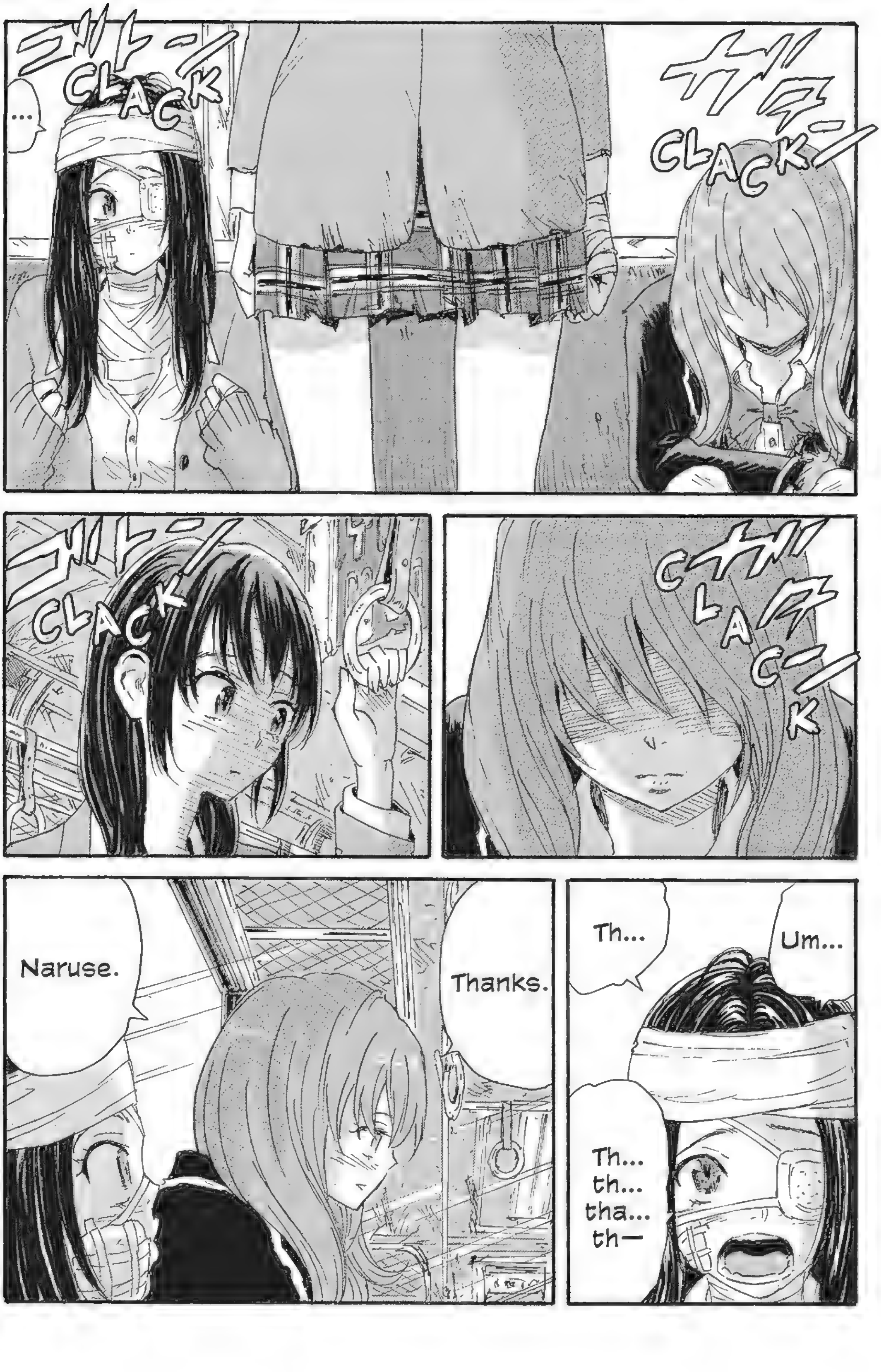

I don't ...
... get it, either...
But ...
Kanon ...
There *was* one good thing here!
I mean... you an' me became friends!

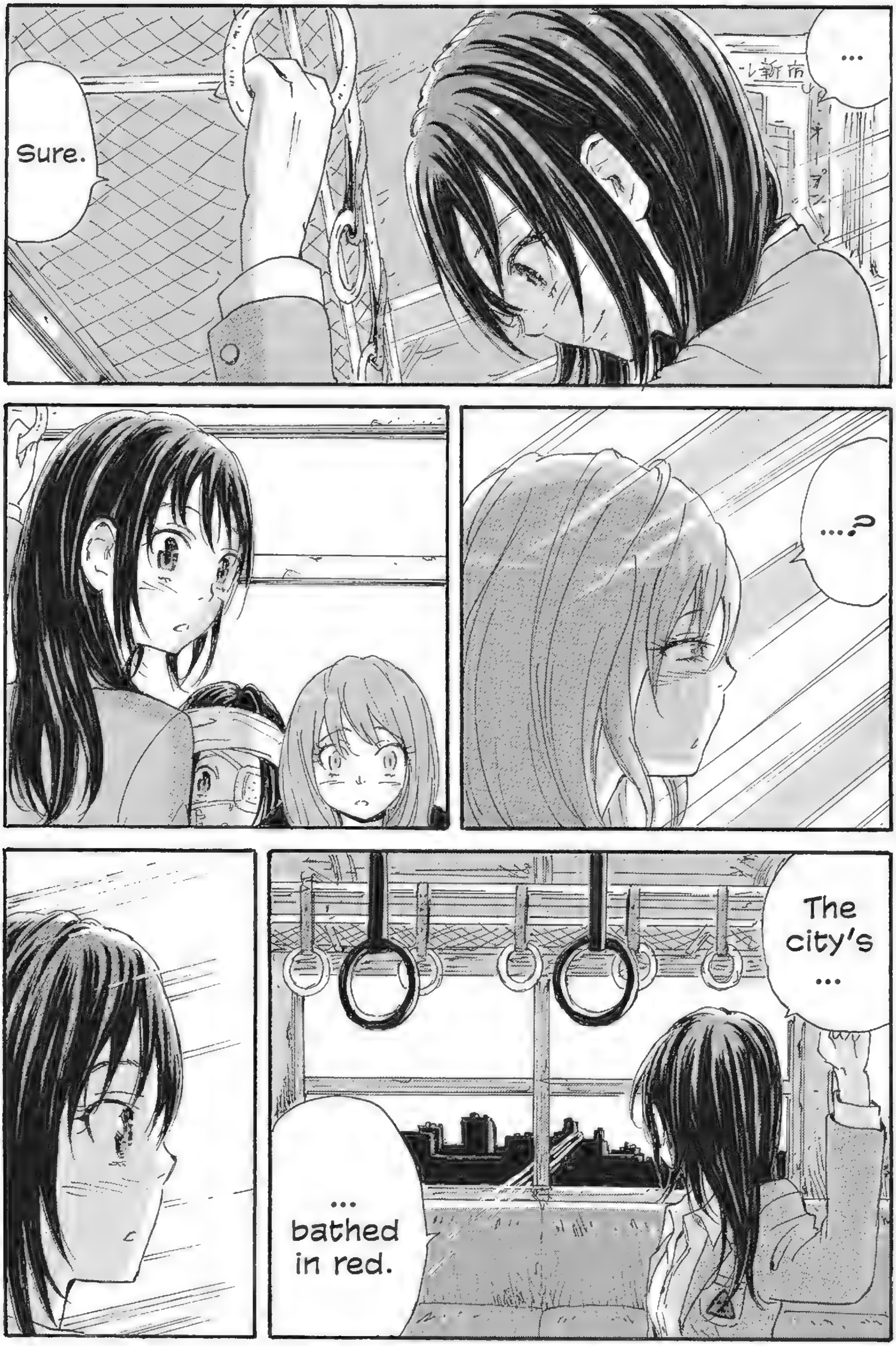


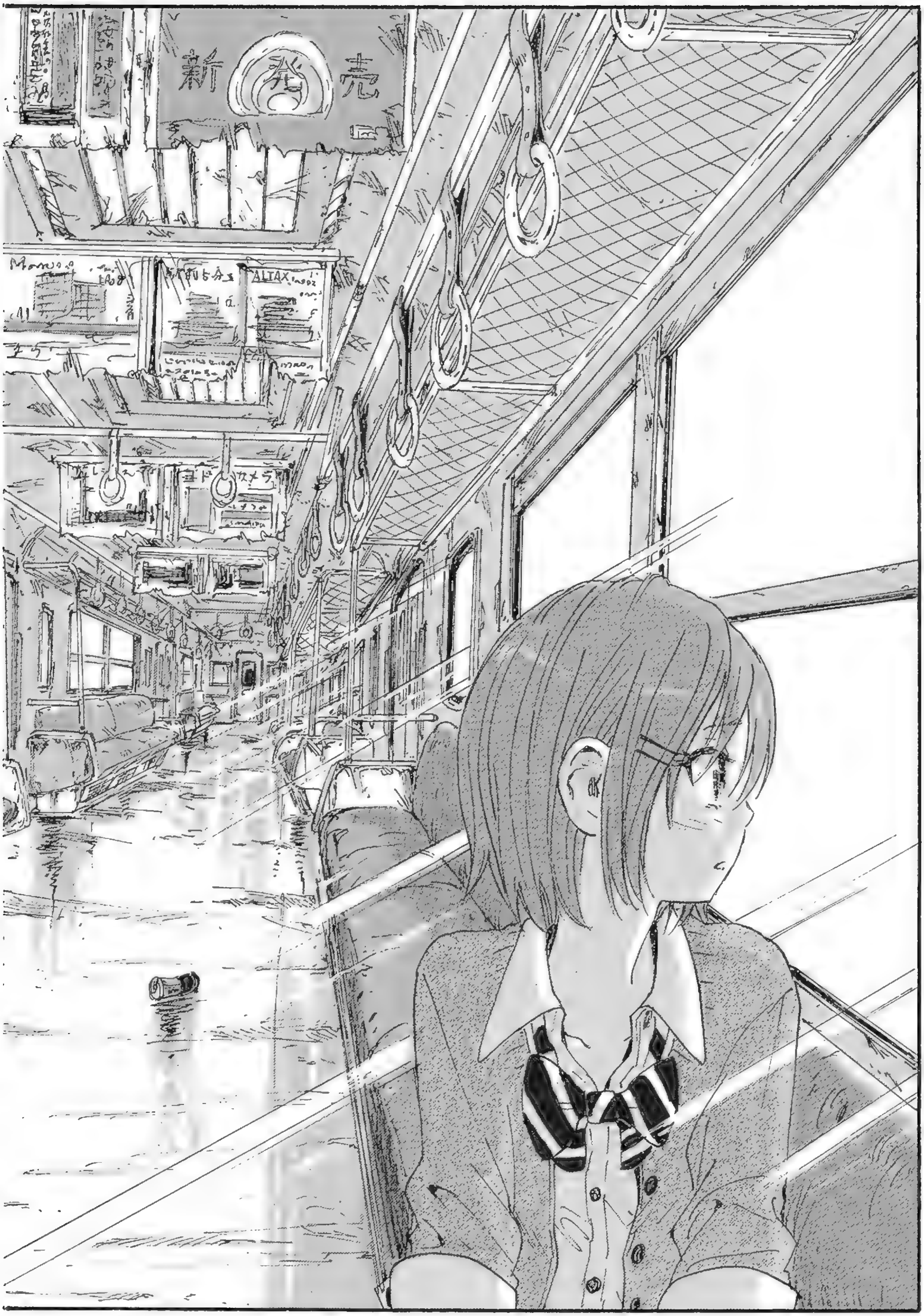

Gennai ...
You awake?
Ah... Kurobe.
20%
And... everyone ...
We're almost to Shinjuku.
You can see Tokyo City Hall through the window.
KREE

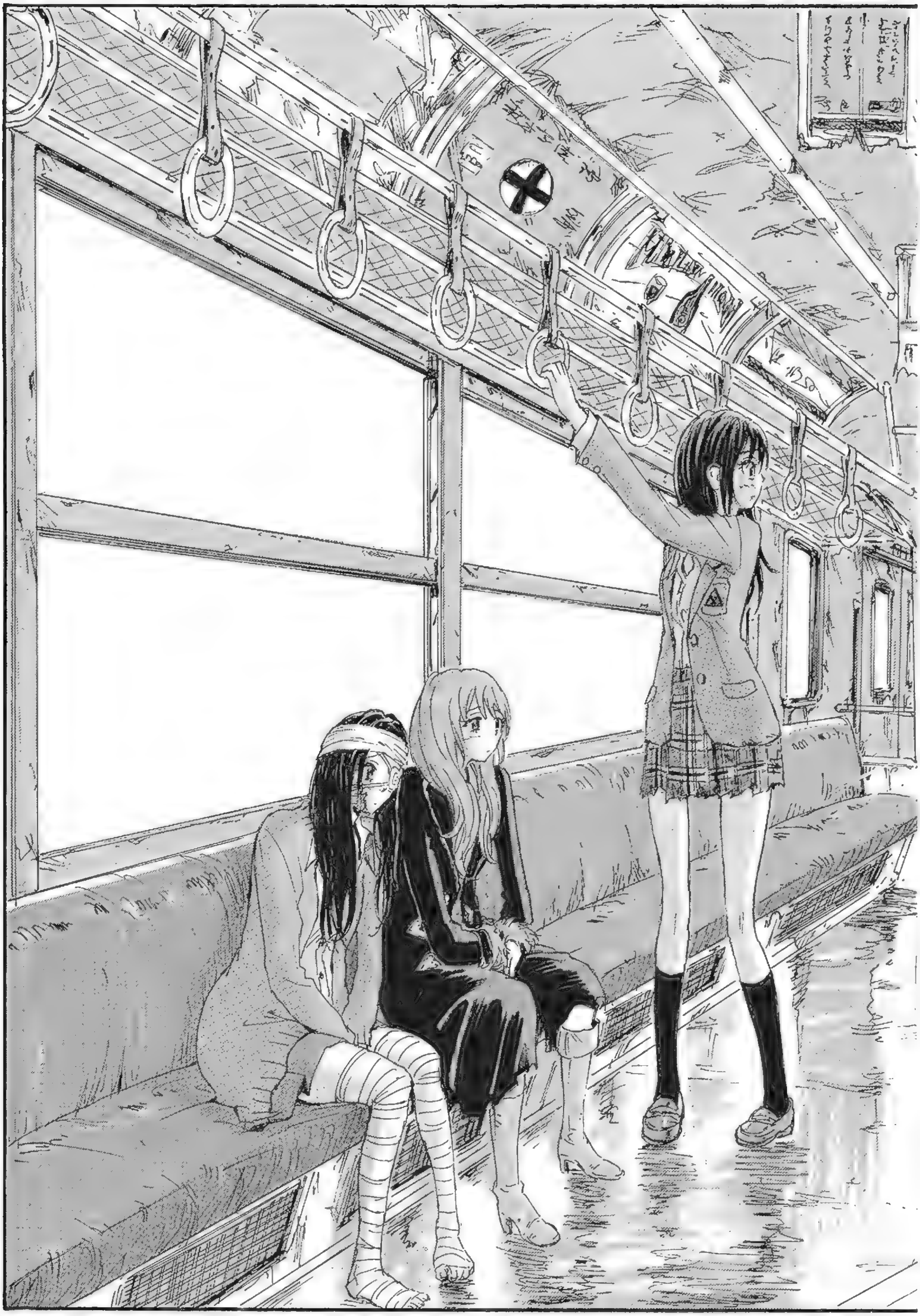

ゴトン
CLACK
ガタン
CLACK

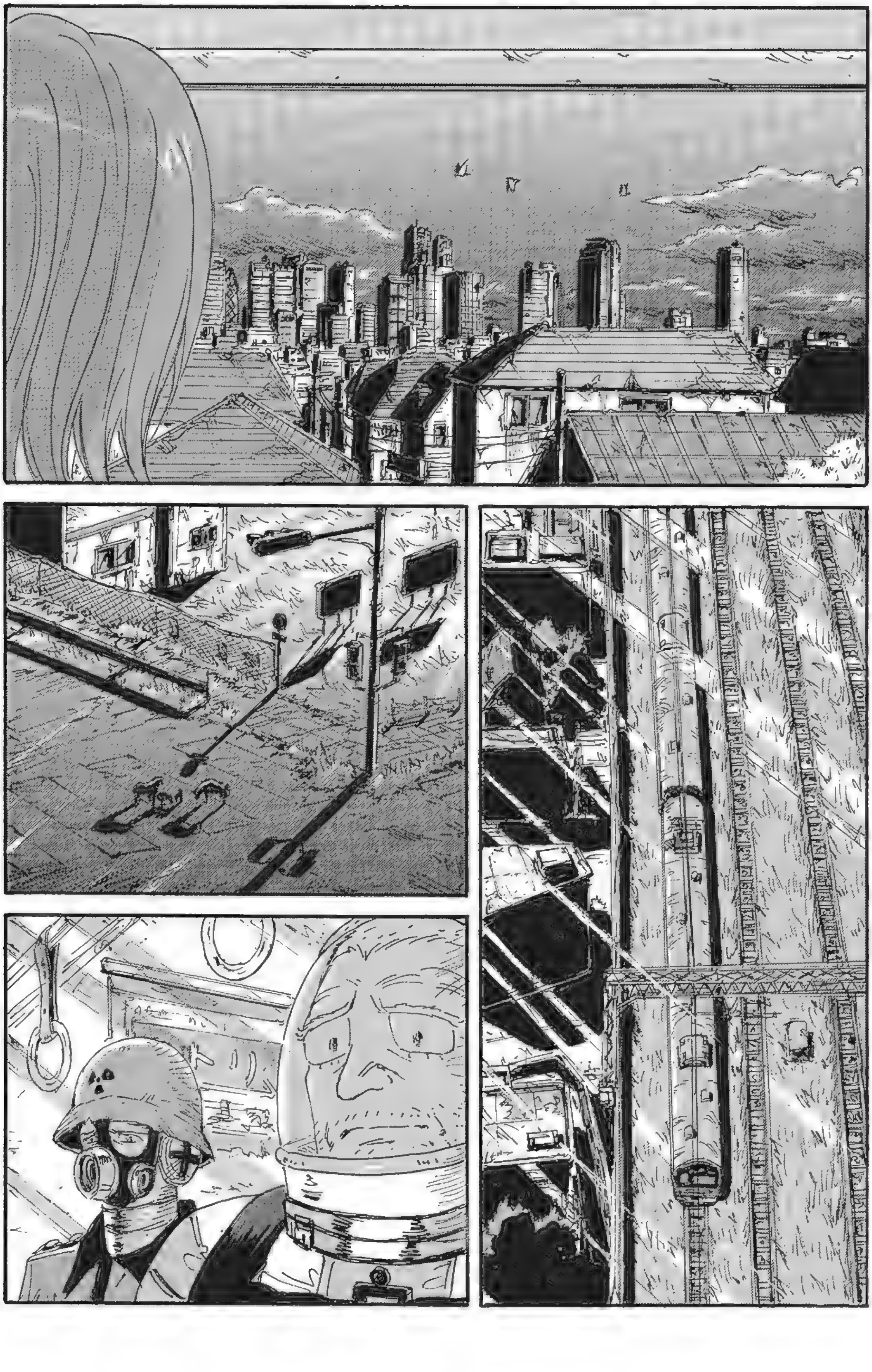

Miss Aoi.
Would you take off my helmet?
CLACK
CLACK
Yeah.
I will.
GWSH
There ya go...
That should stop the bleeding.

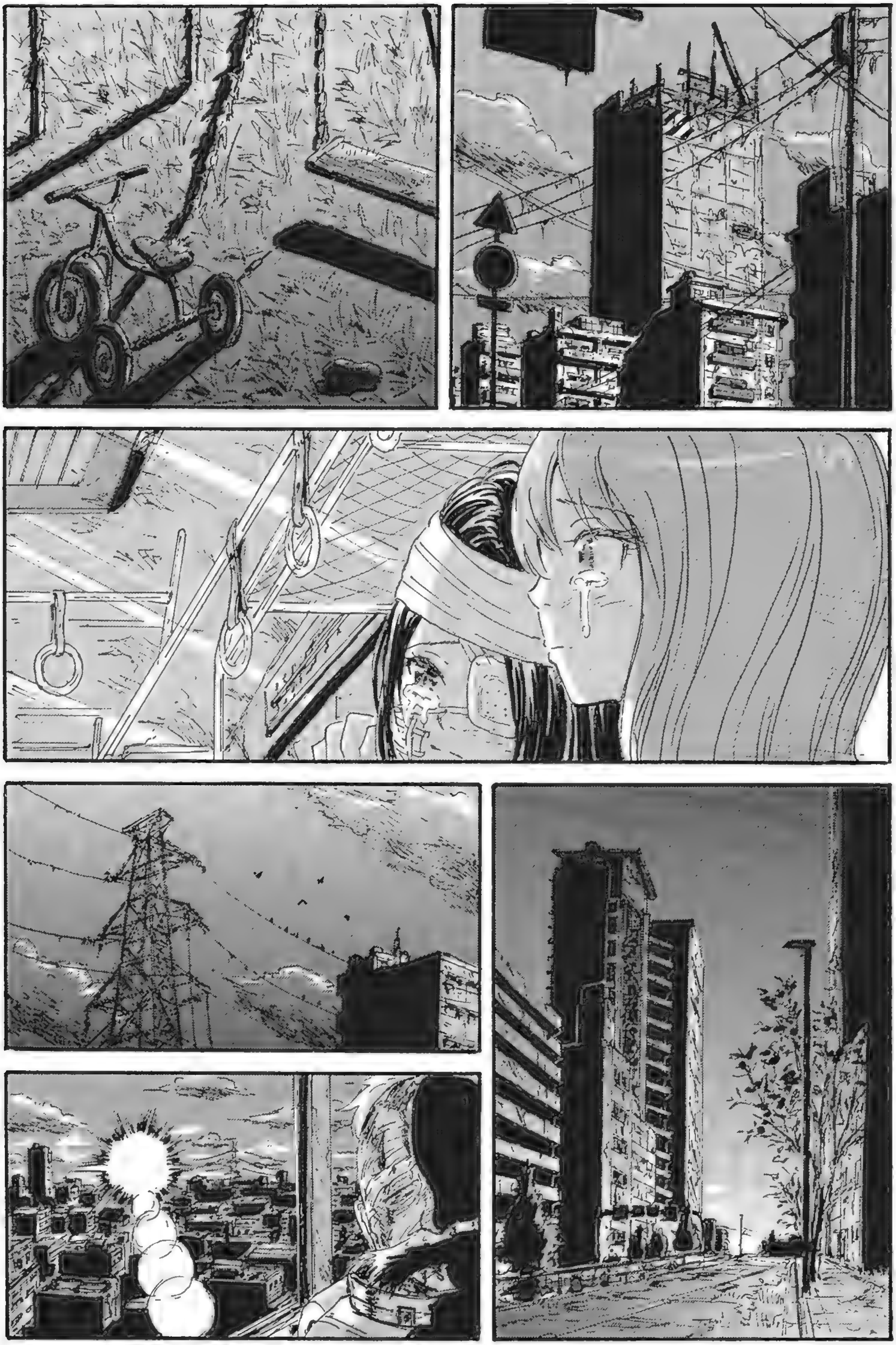

ガターン
CLACK
ゴトーン
CLACK
…
ガタン
CLACK
ゴトーン
CLACK
Um...
Th...
Th... th... tha... th—
Thanks.
Naruse.

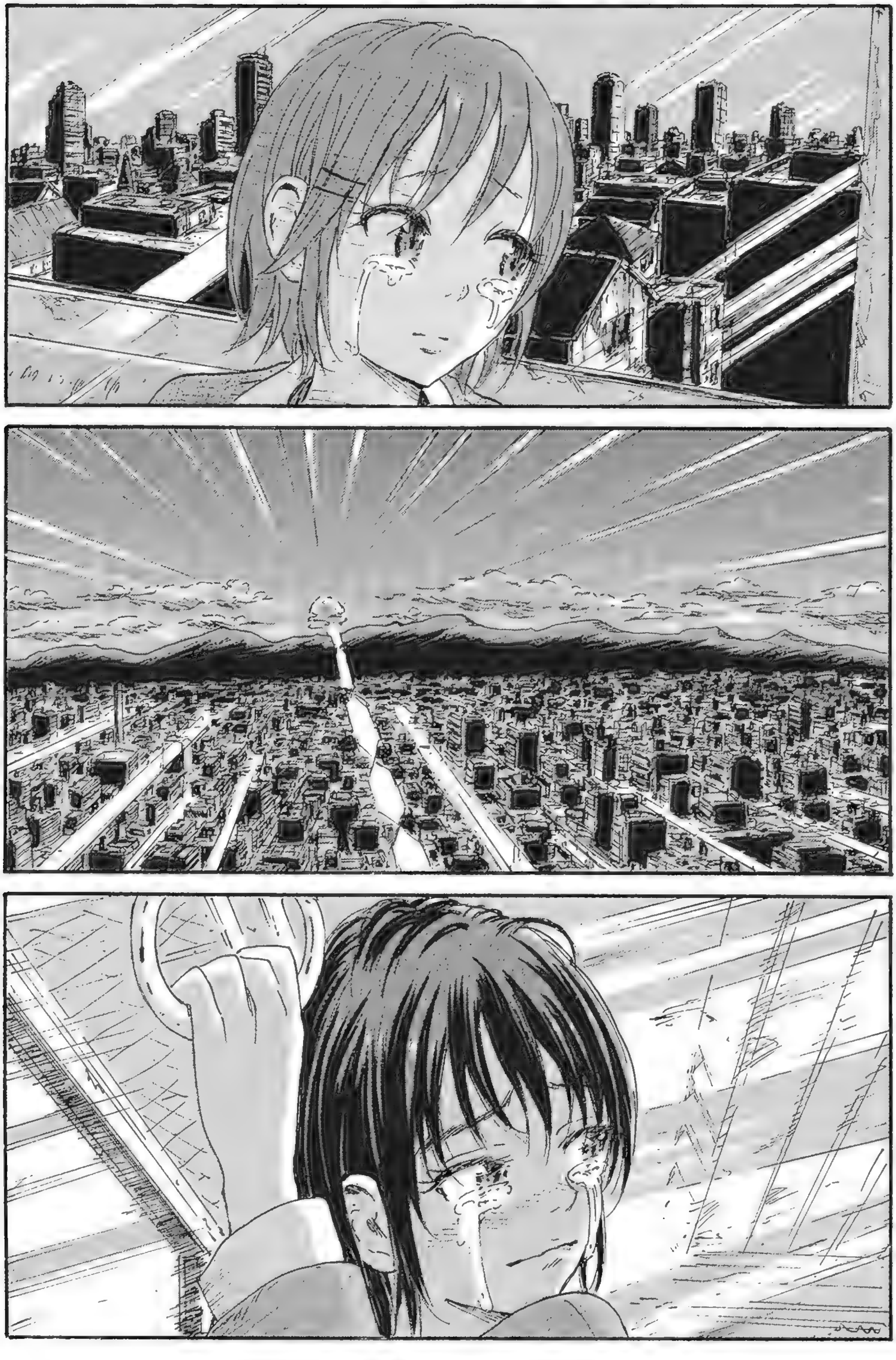

...
Sure.
...?
The city's ...
... bathed in red.

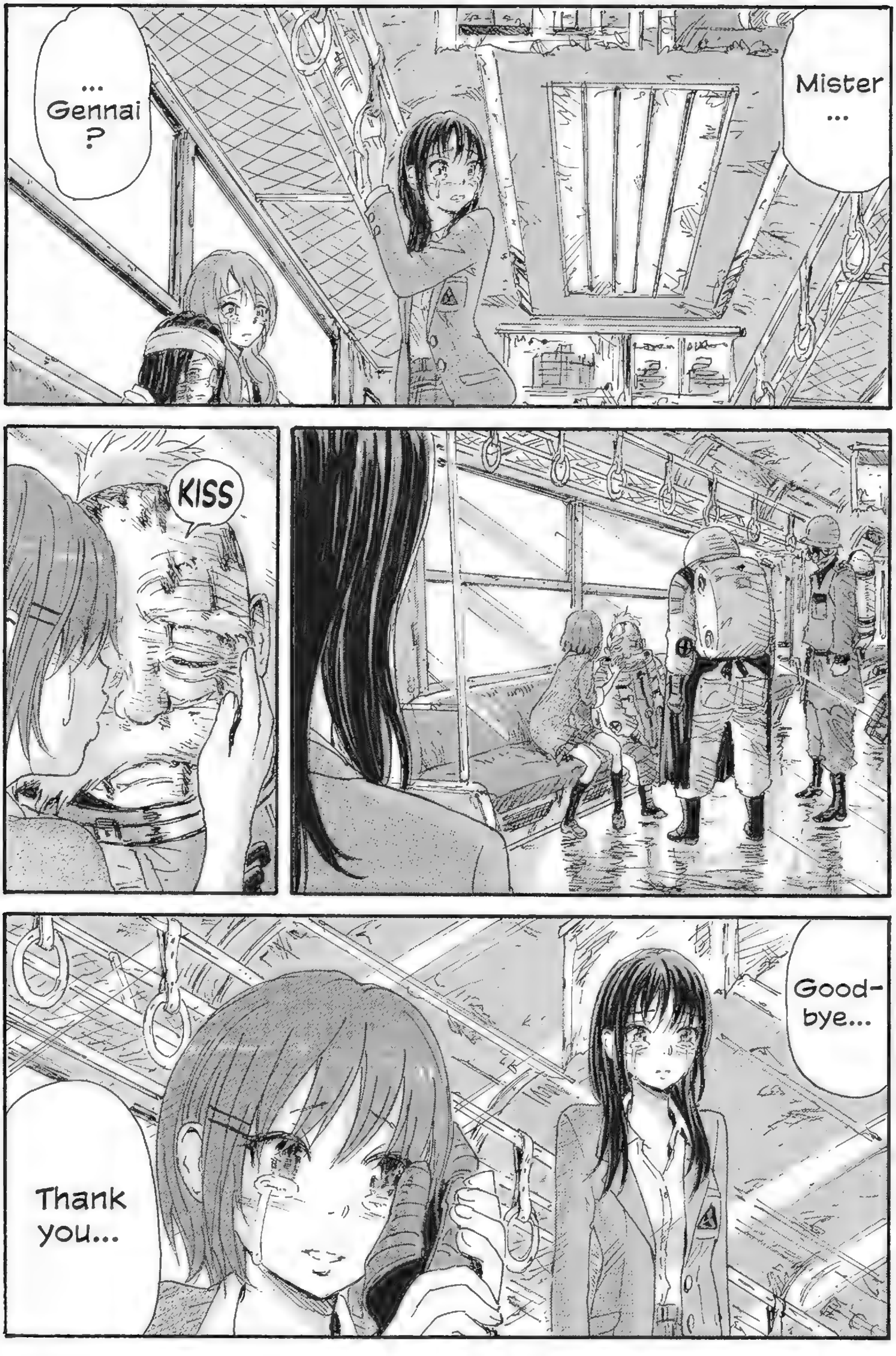

新発売
ALTAX
ヨドカメラ

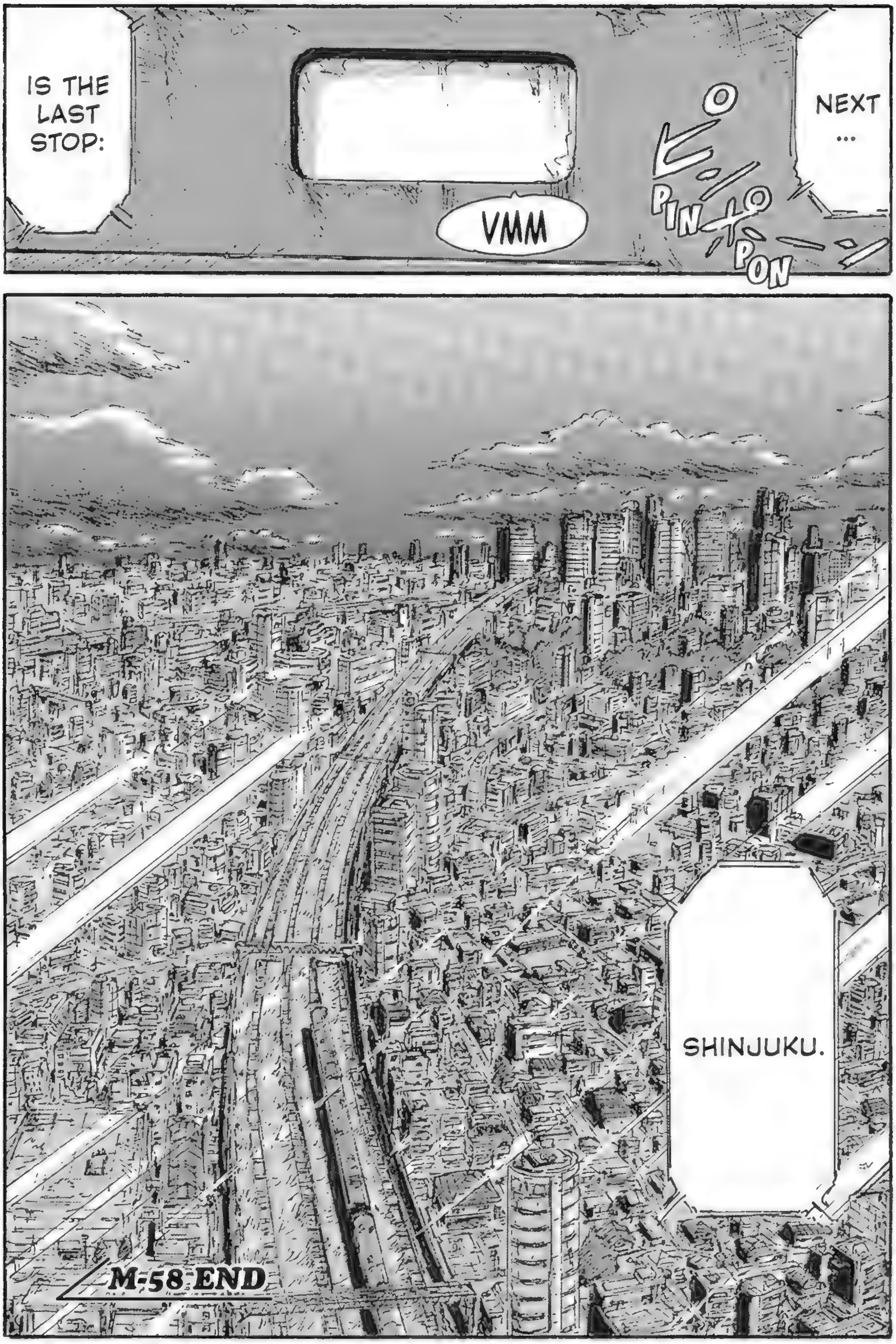




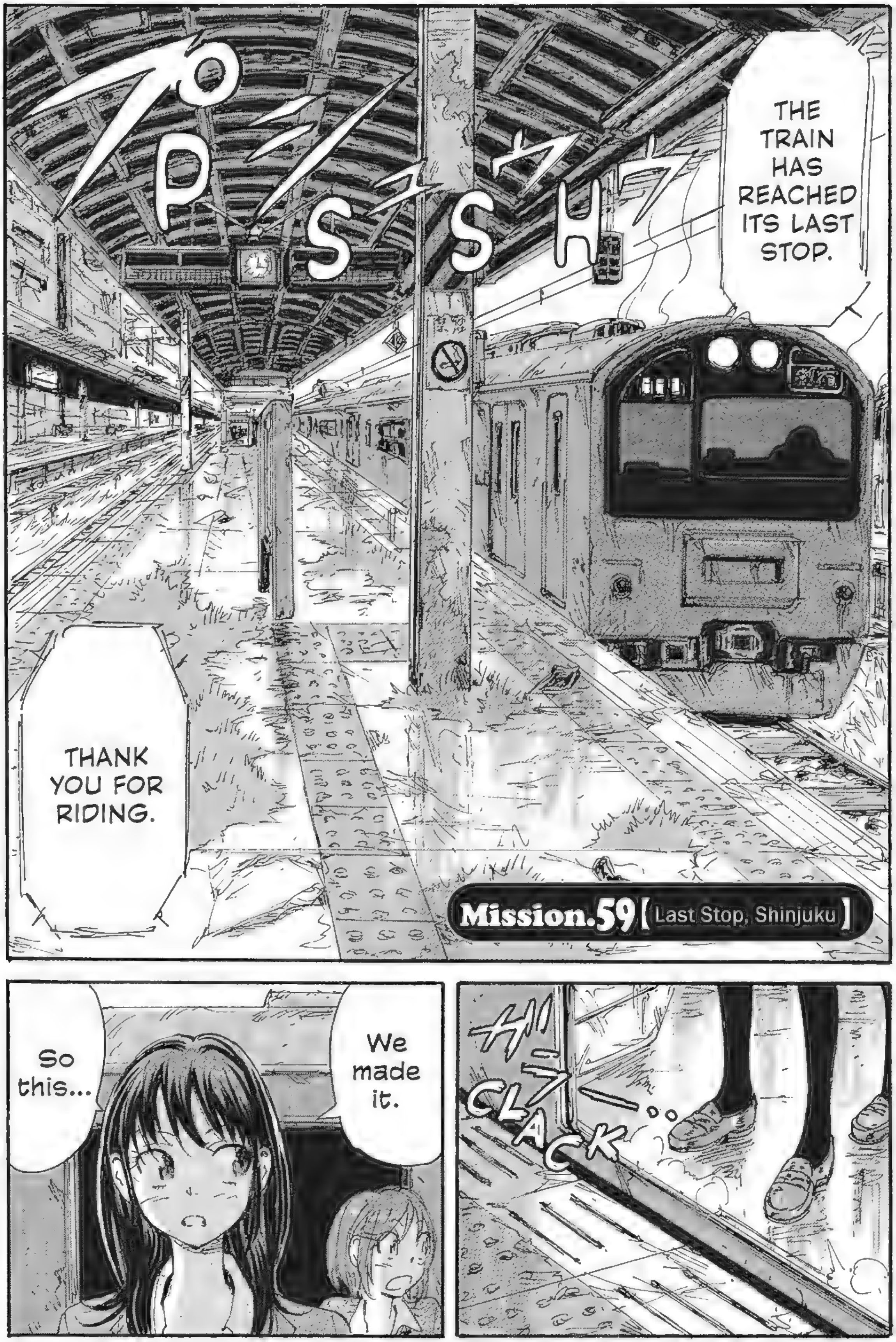


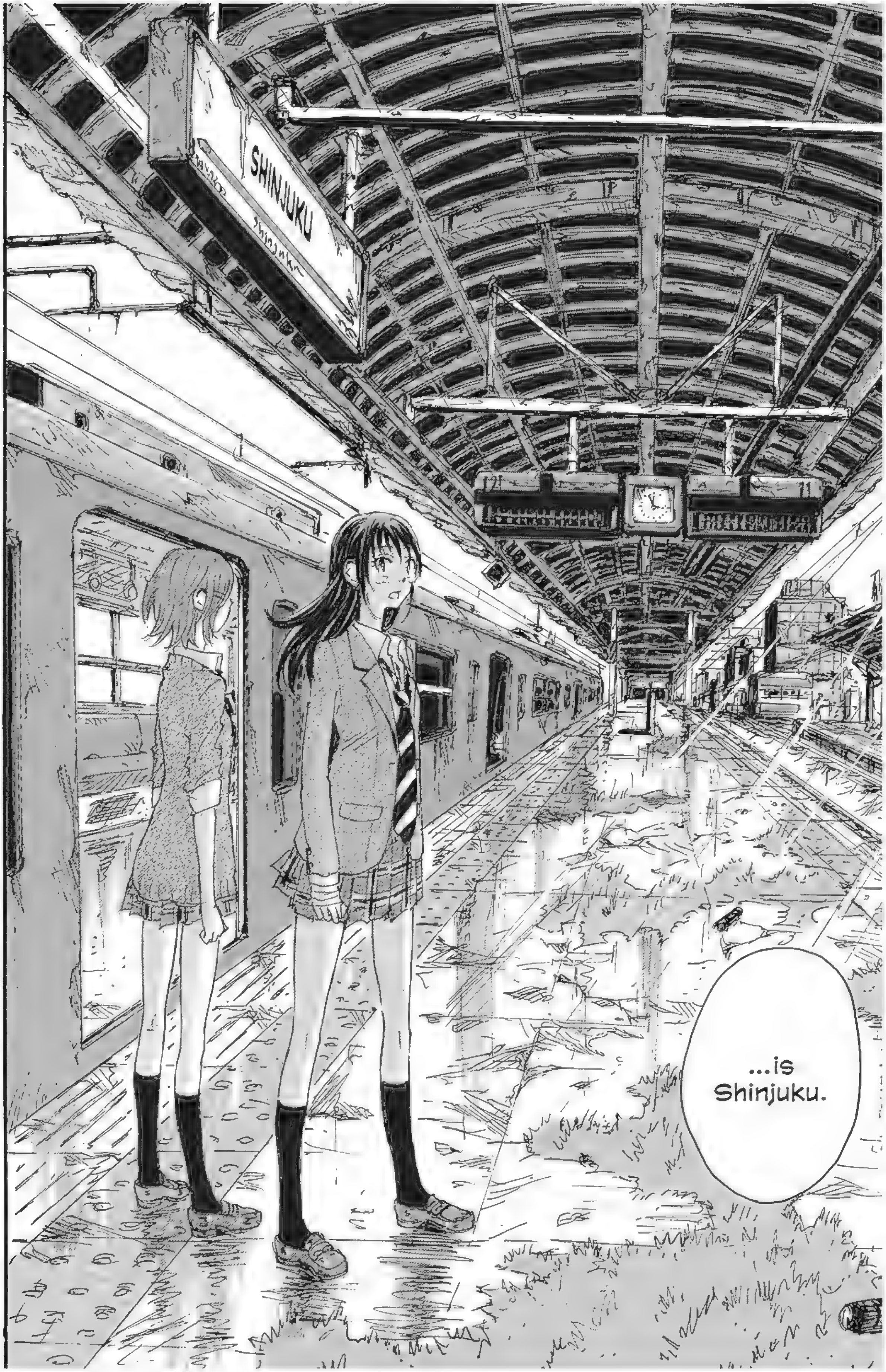


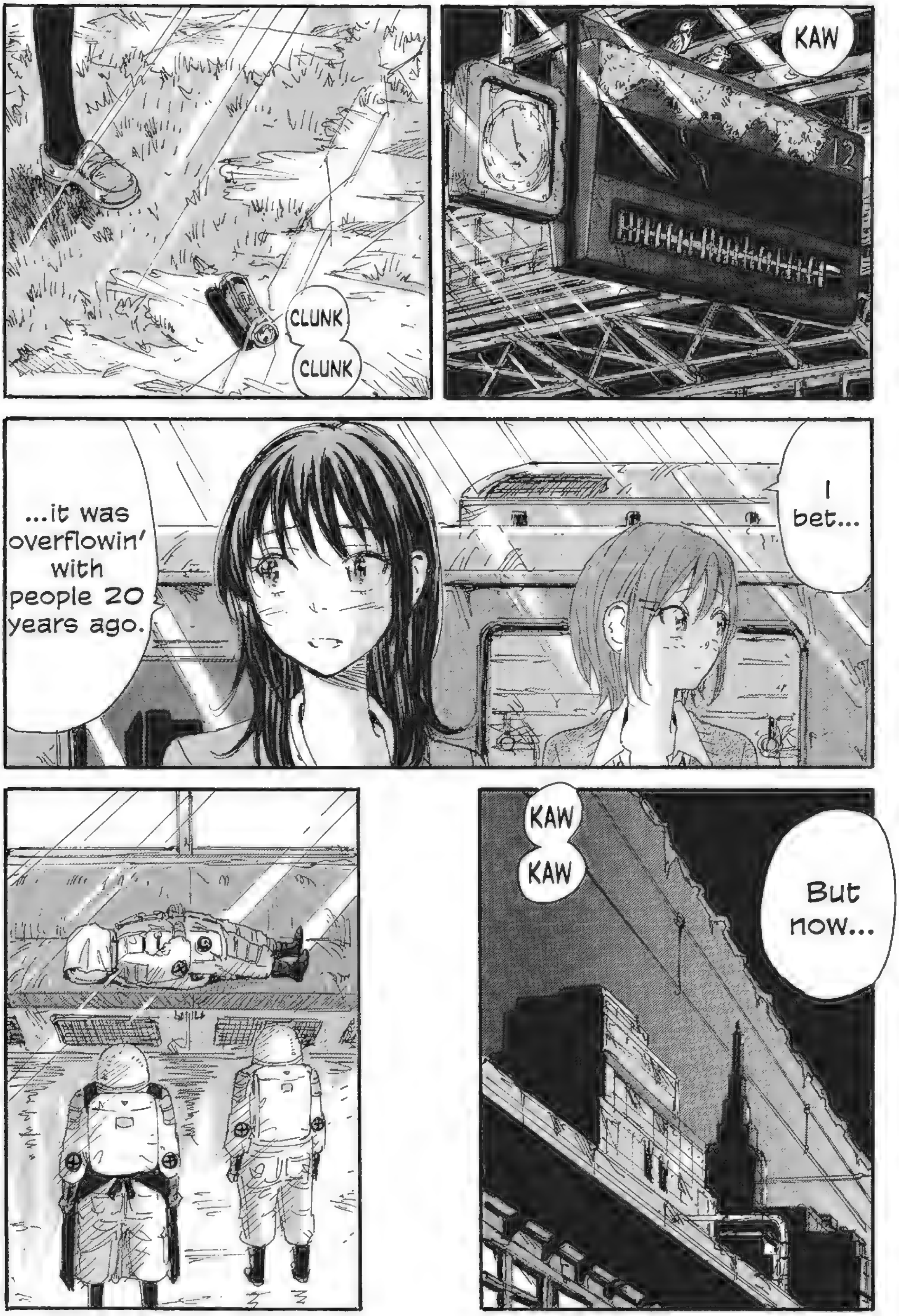

Mister ...
... Gennai ?
KISS
Good-bye...
Thank you...

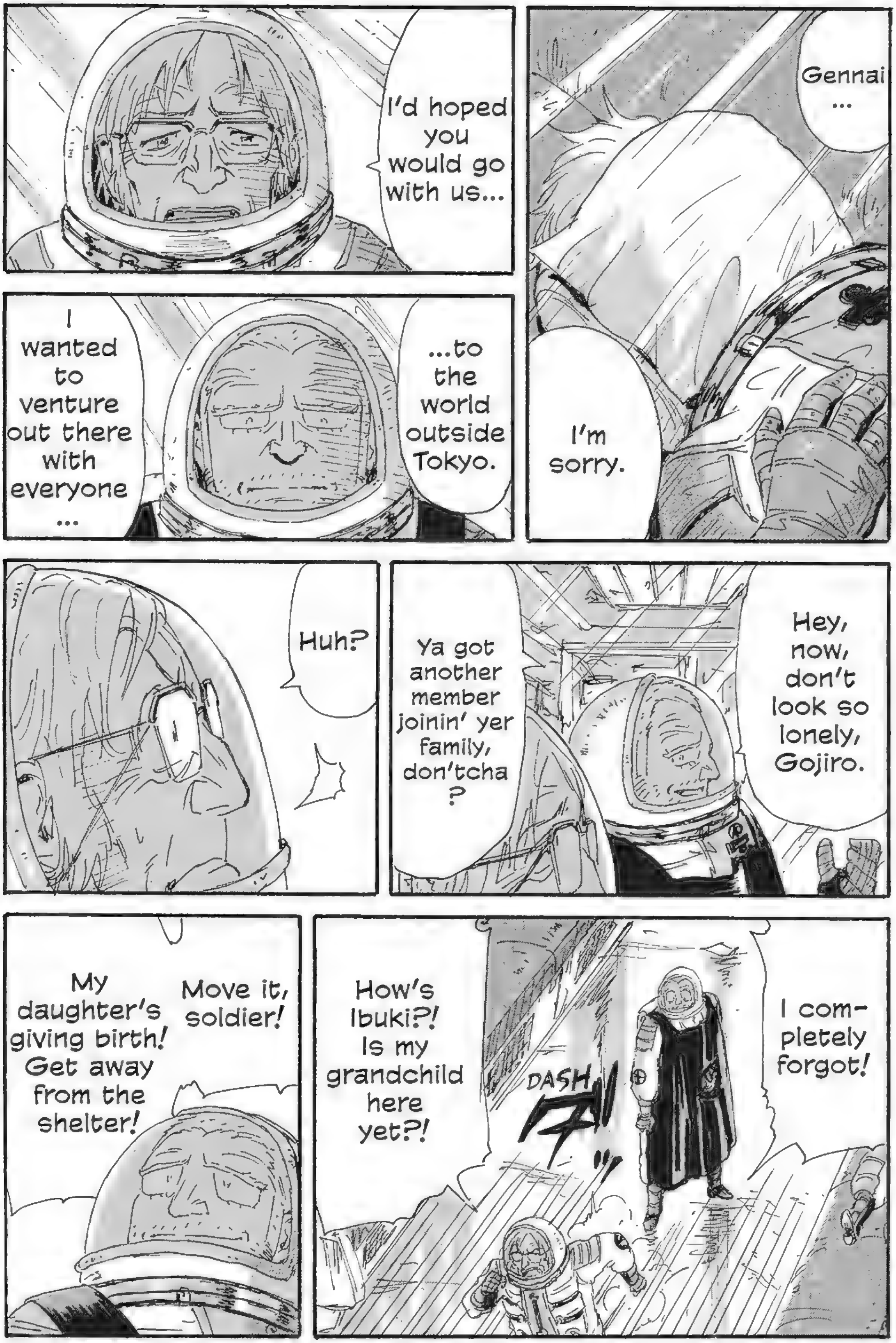

NEXT ...
PIN PON
VMM
IS THE LAST STOP:
SHINJUKU.
M-58 END

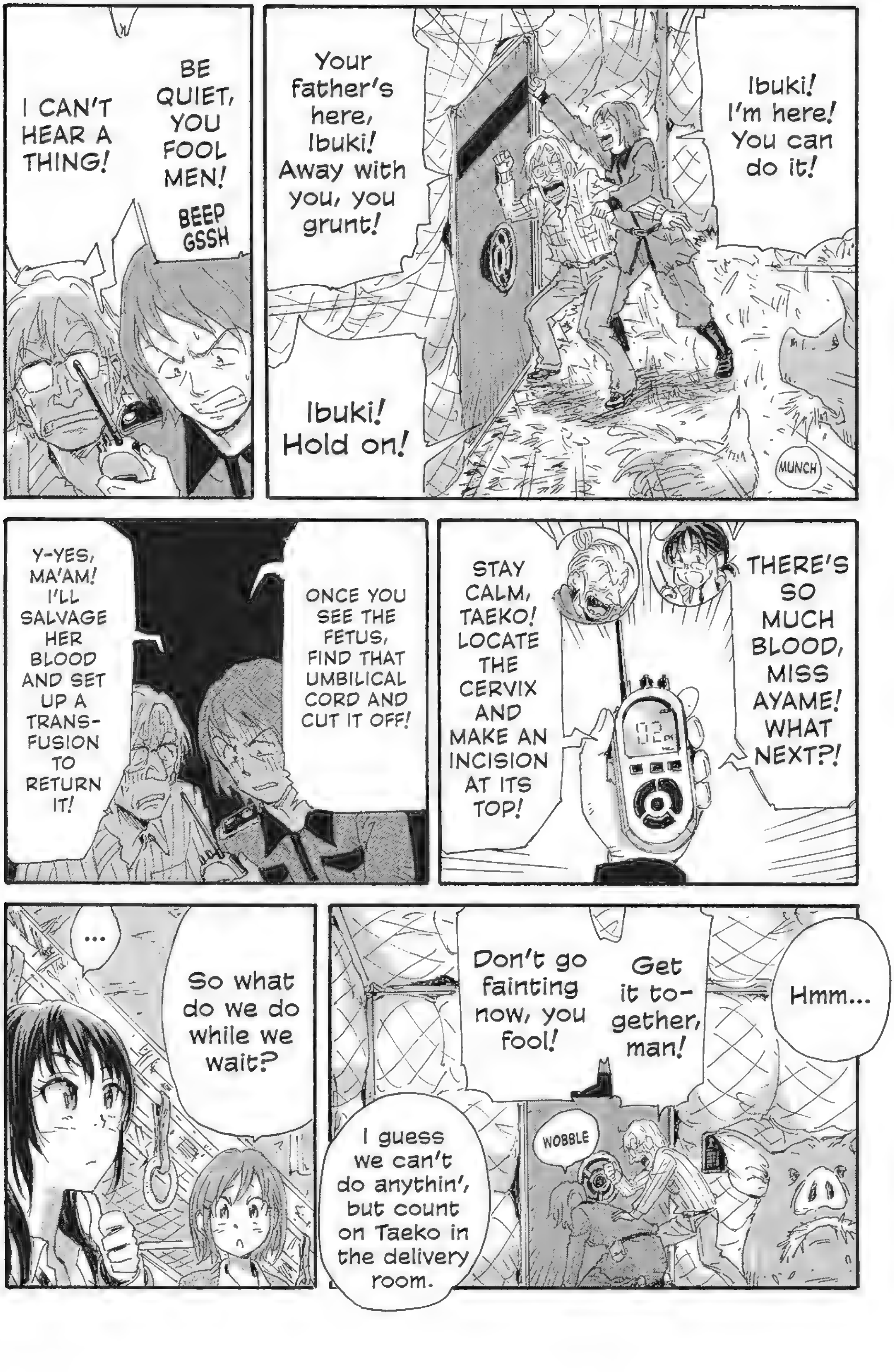
Mission.59 【Last Stop, Shinjuku】

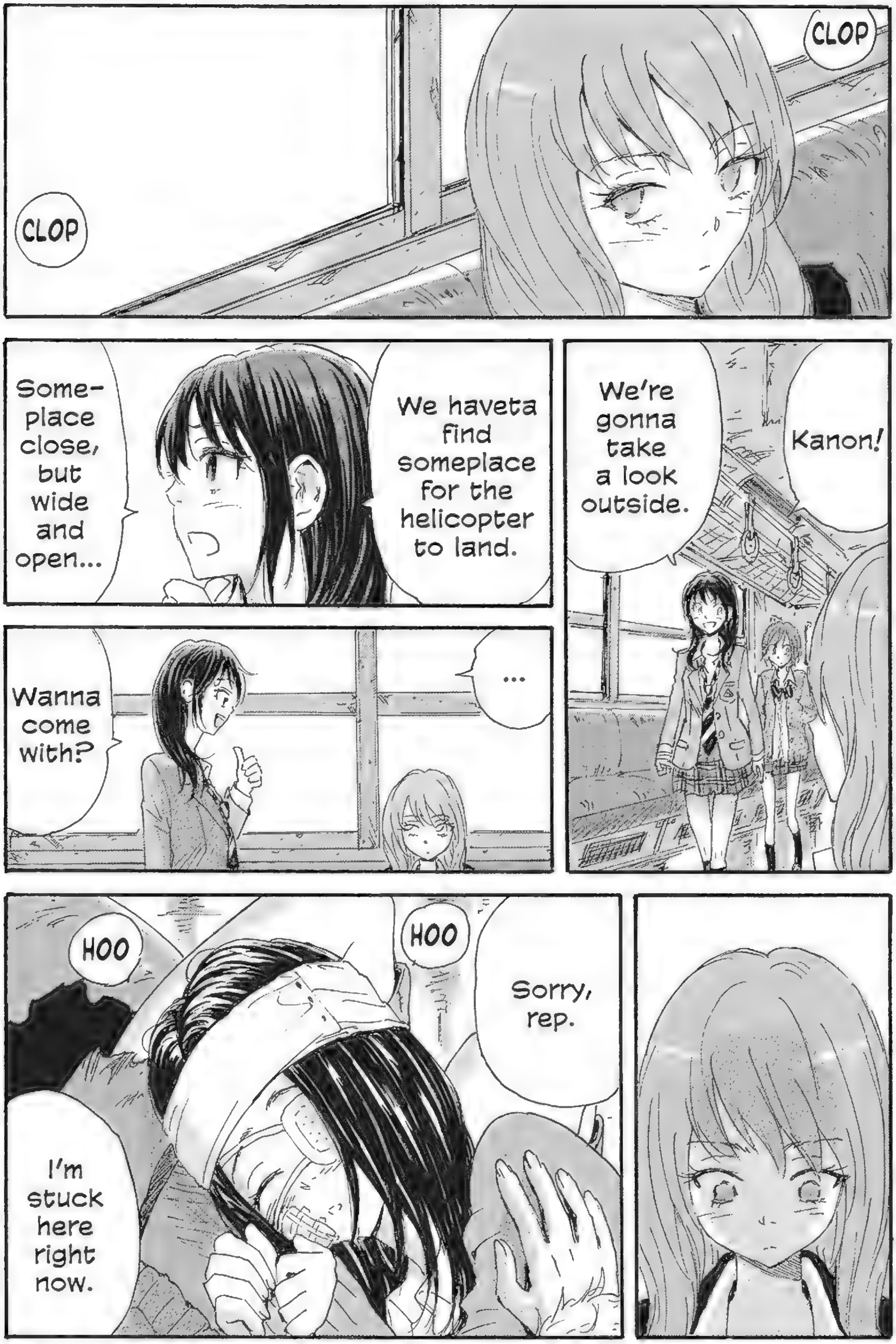

PSSSH
THE TRAIN HAS REACHED ITS LAST STOP.
THANK YOU FOR RIDING.
CLACK
We made it.
So this...

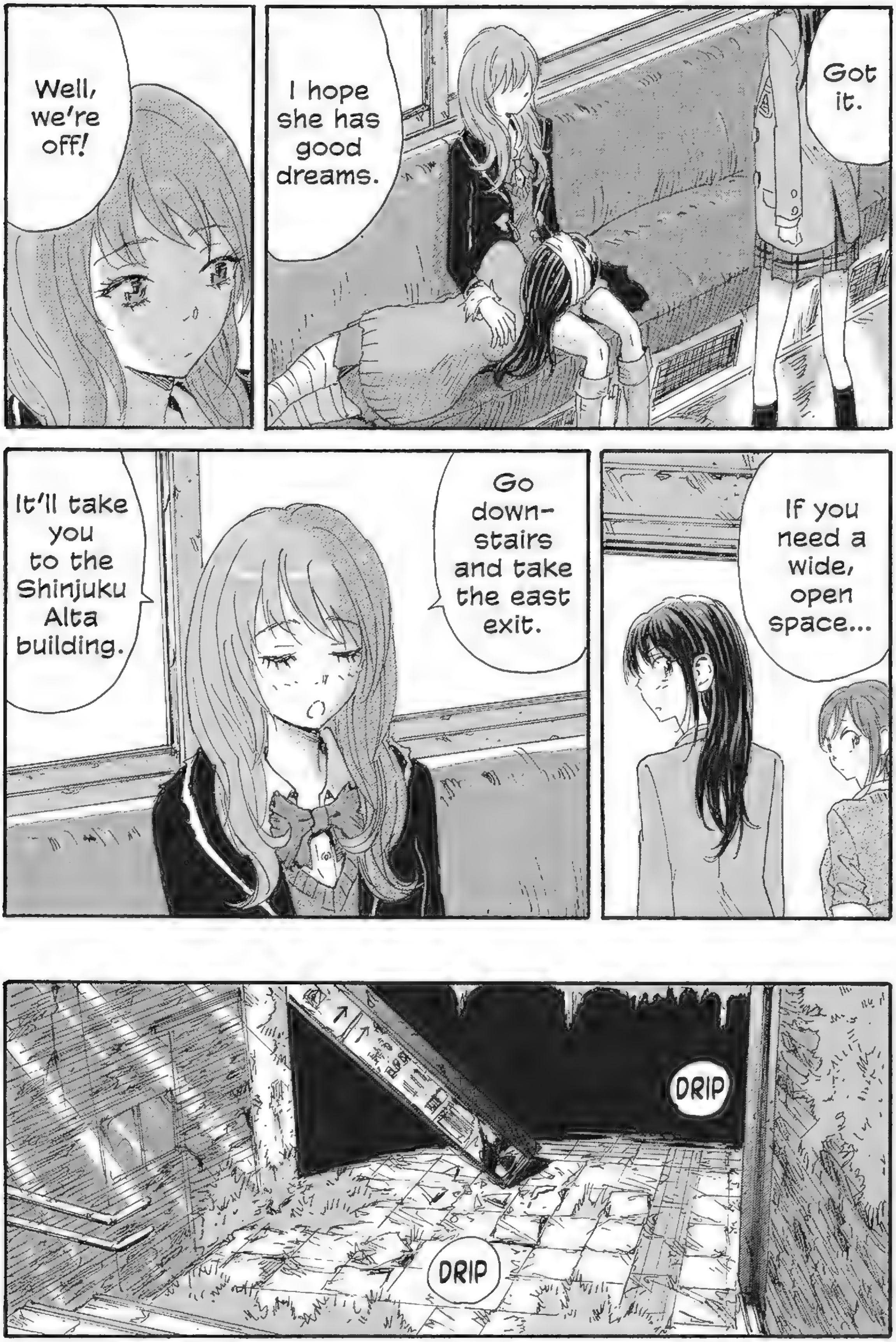

SHINJUKU
shinjuku
...is Shinjuku.

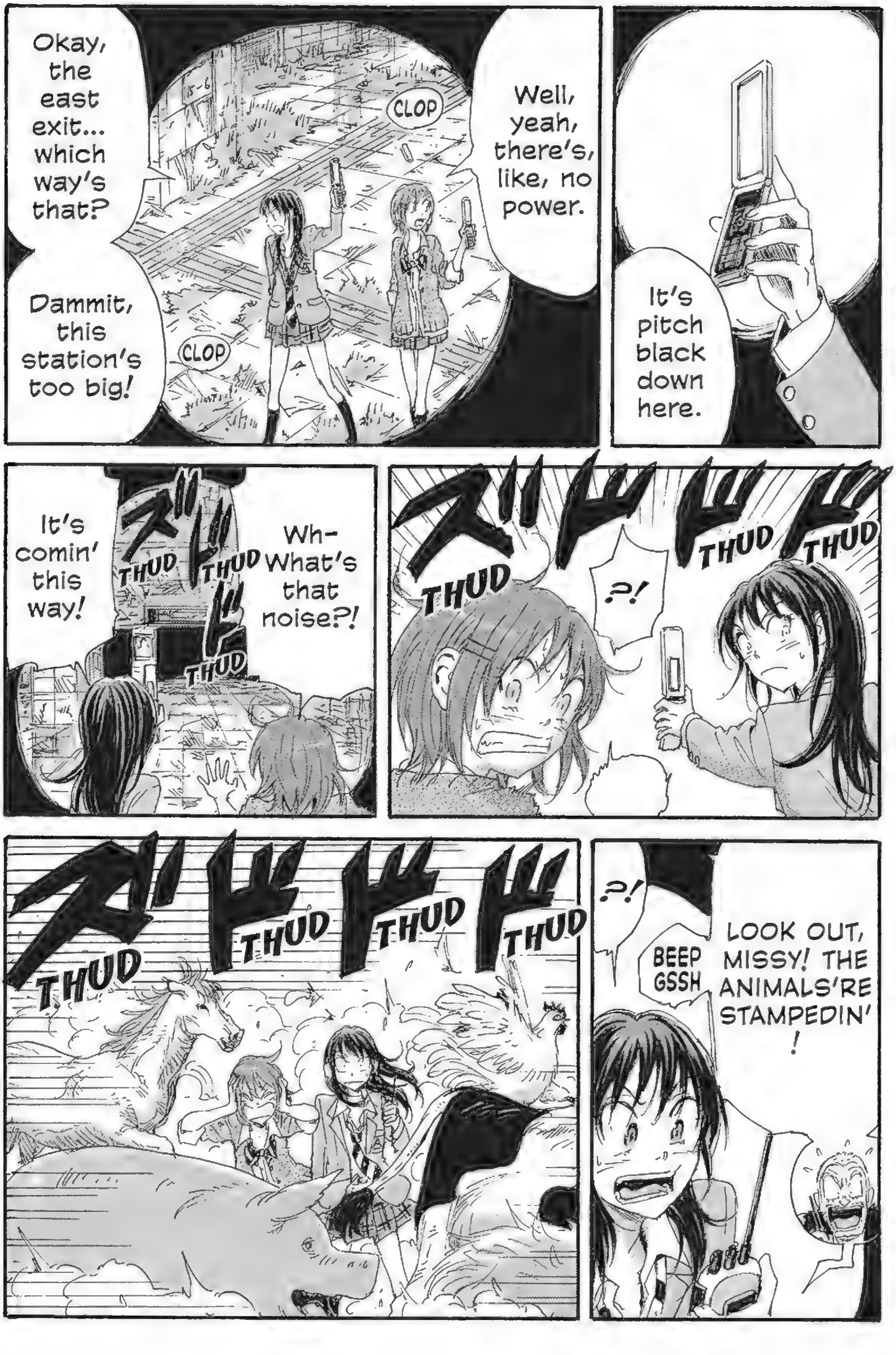

KAW
CLUNK
CLUNK
I bet...
...it was overflowin' with people 20 years ago.
KAW
KAW
But now...

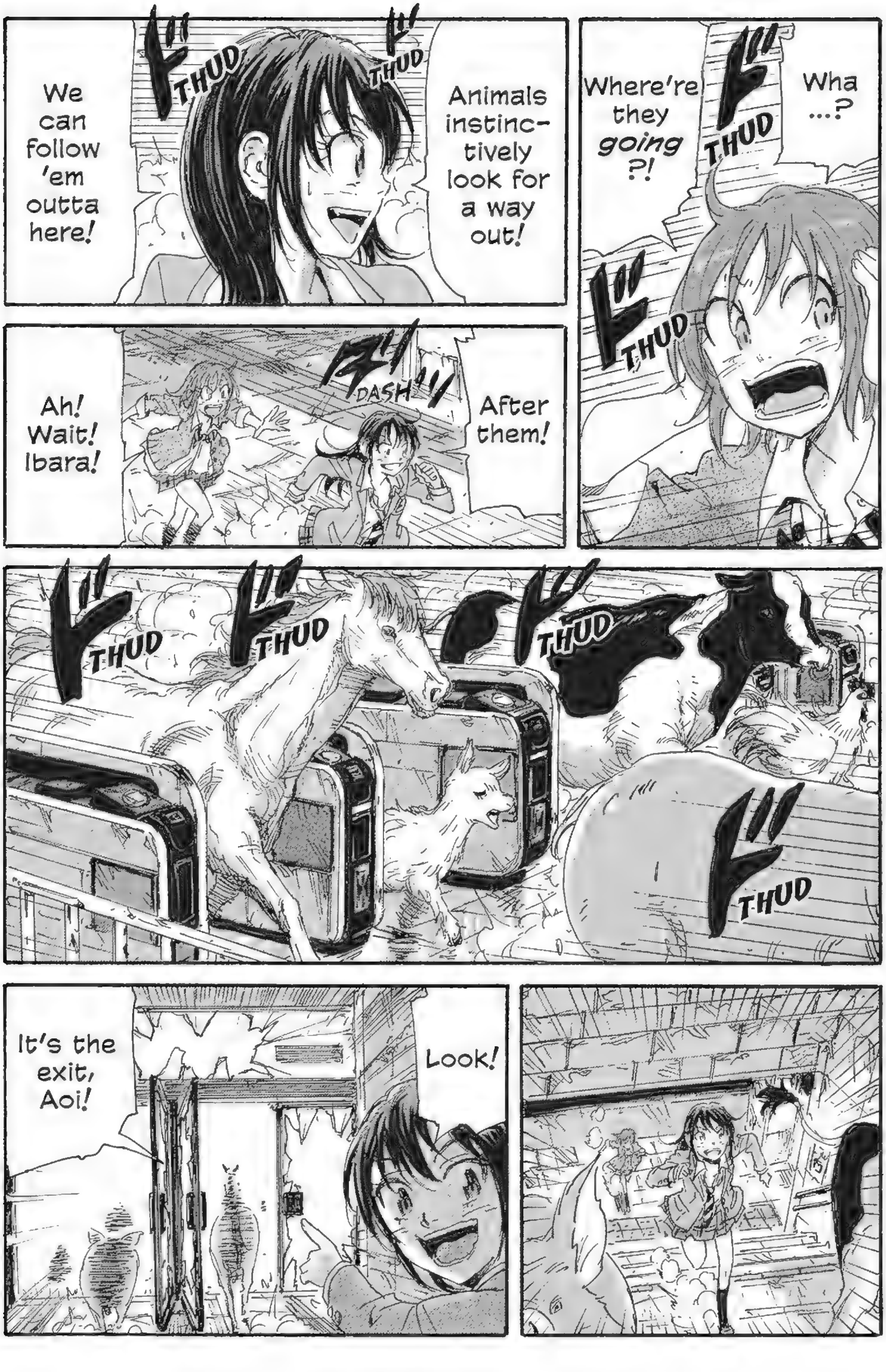

Gennai ...
I'm sorry.
I'd hoped you would go with us...
...to the world outside Tokyo.
I wanted to venture out there with everyone ...
Hey, now, don't look so lonely, Gojiro.
Ya got another member joinin' yer family, don'tcha ?
Huh?
I completely forgot!
How's Ibuki?! Is my grandchild here yet?!
DASH
Move it, soldier!
My daughter's giving birth! Get away from the shelter!

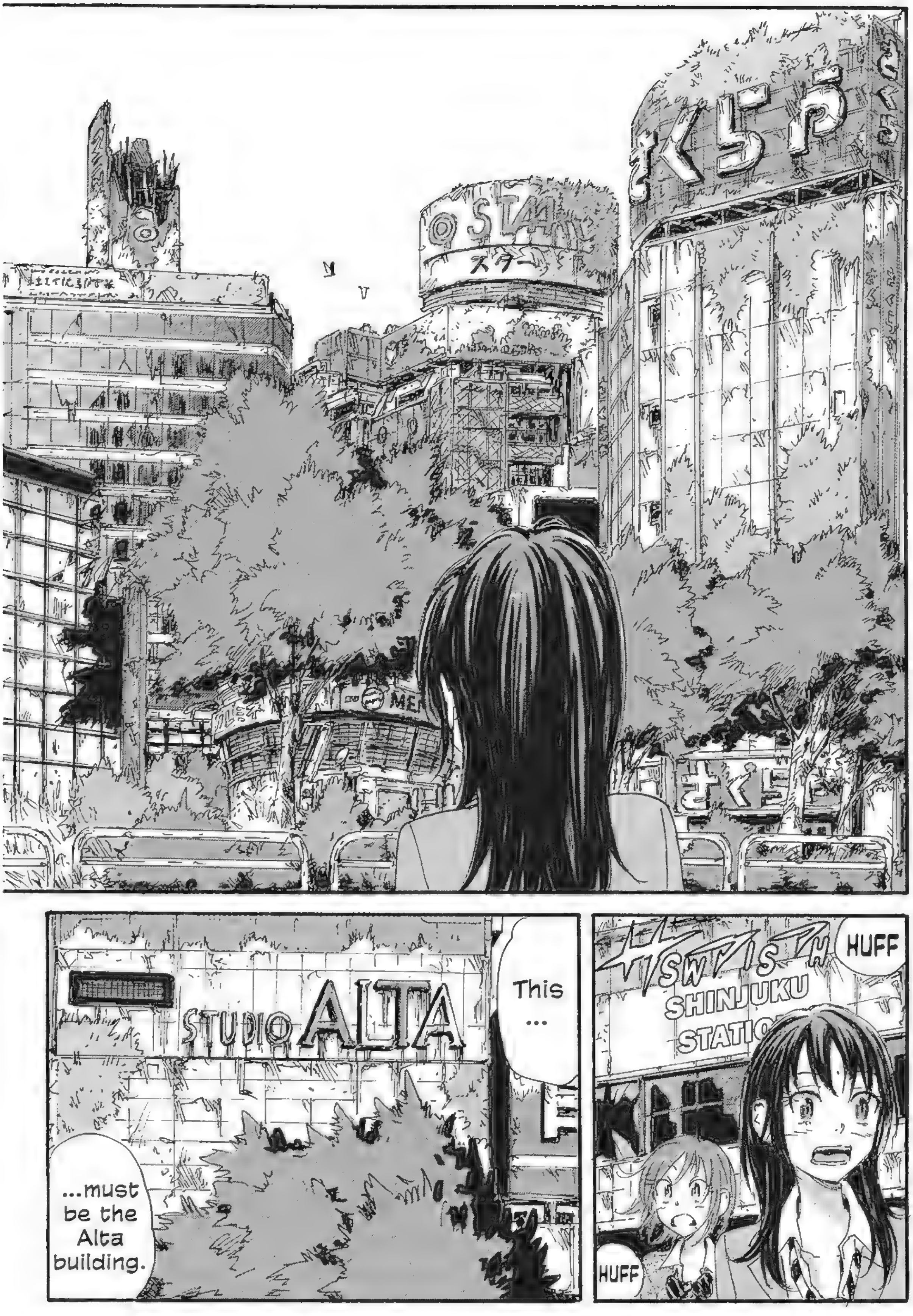

Ibuki! I'm here! You can do it!
Your father's here, Ibuki! Away with you, you grunt!
Ibuki! Hold on!
MUNCH
BE QUIET, YOU FOOL MEN!
BEEP GSSH
I CAN'T HEAR A THING!
THERE'S SO MUCH BLOOD, MISS AYAME! WHAT NEXT?!
STAY CALM, TAEKO! LOCATE THE CERVIX AND MAKE AN INCISION AT ITS TOP!
ONCE YOU SEE THE FETUS, FIND THAT UMBILICAL CORD AND CUT IT OFF!
Y-YES, MA'AM! I'LL SALVAGE HER BLOOD AND SET UP A TRANSFUSION TO RETURN IT!
Hmm...
Get it together, man!
Don't go fainting now, you fool!
WOBBLE
I guess we can't do anythin', but count on Taeko in the delivery room.
...
So what do we do while we wait?

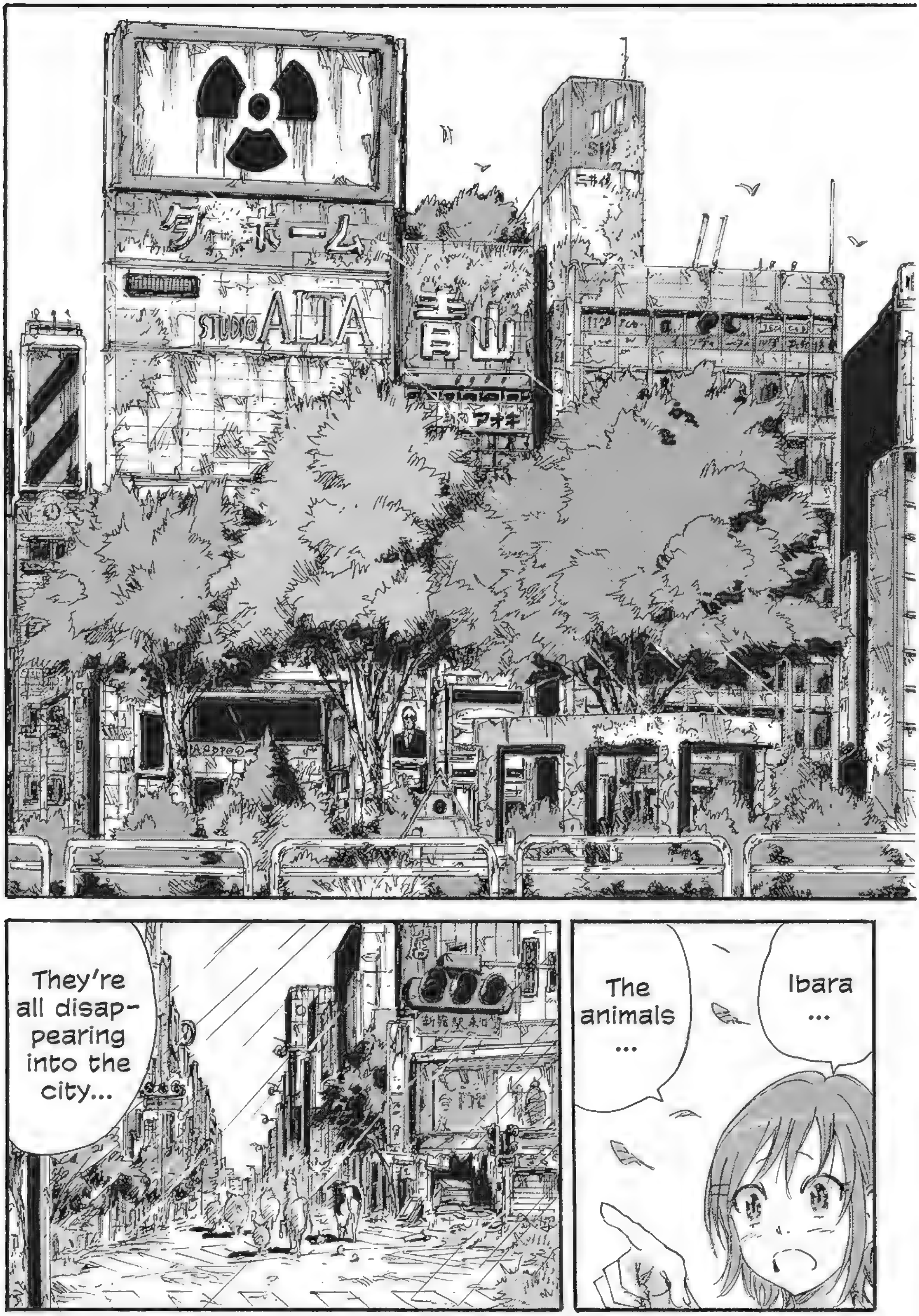

CLOP
CLOP
Kanon!
We're gonna take a look outside.
We haveta find someplace for the helicopter to land.
Someplace close, but wide and open...
...
Wanna come with?
HOO
Sorry, rep.
HOO
I'm stuck here right now.

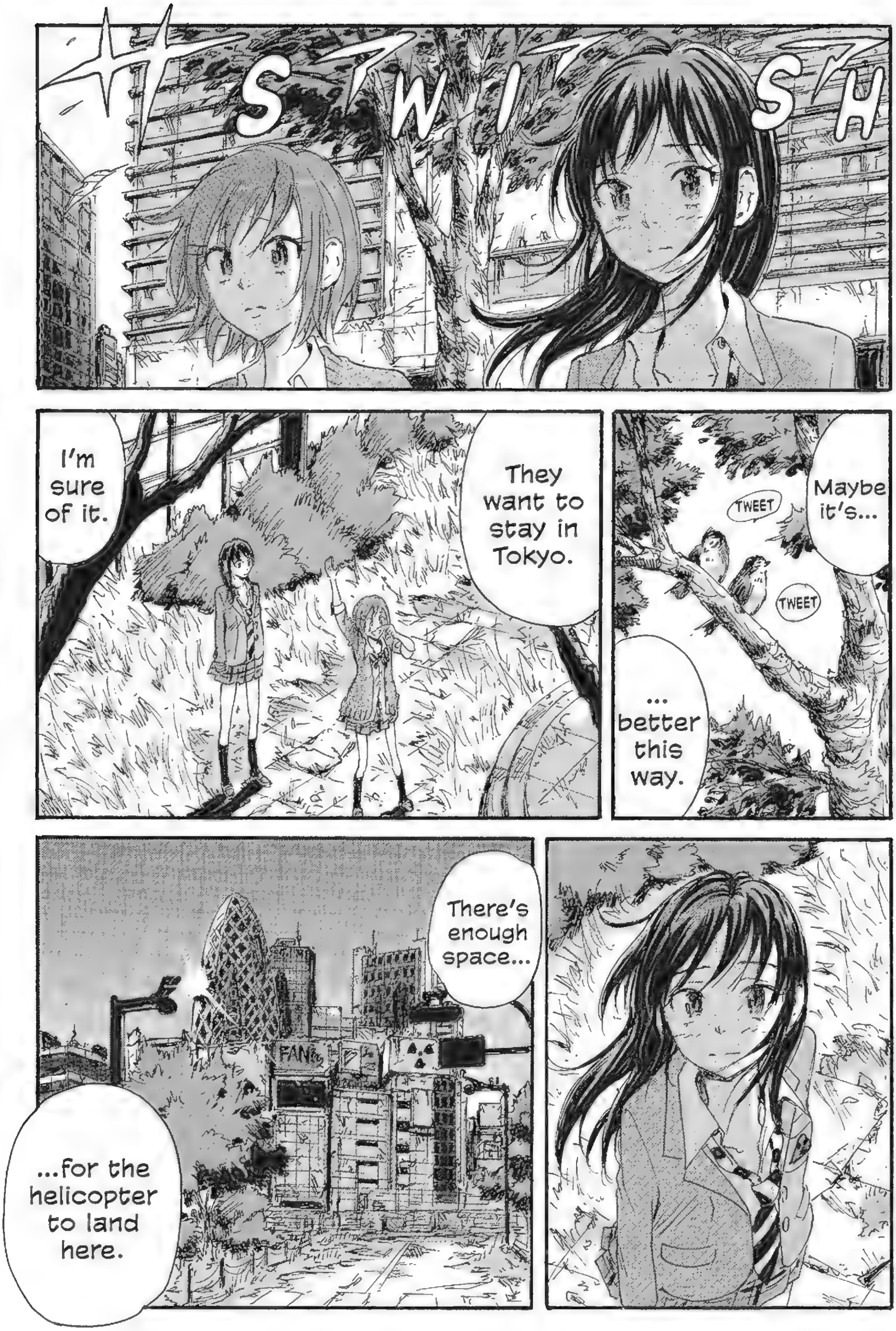

Got it.
I hope she has good dreams.
Well, we're off!
If you need a wide, open space...
Go downstairs and take the east exit.
It'll take you to the Shinjuku Alta building.
DRIP
DRIP

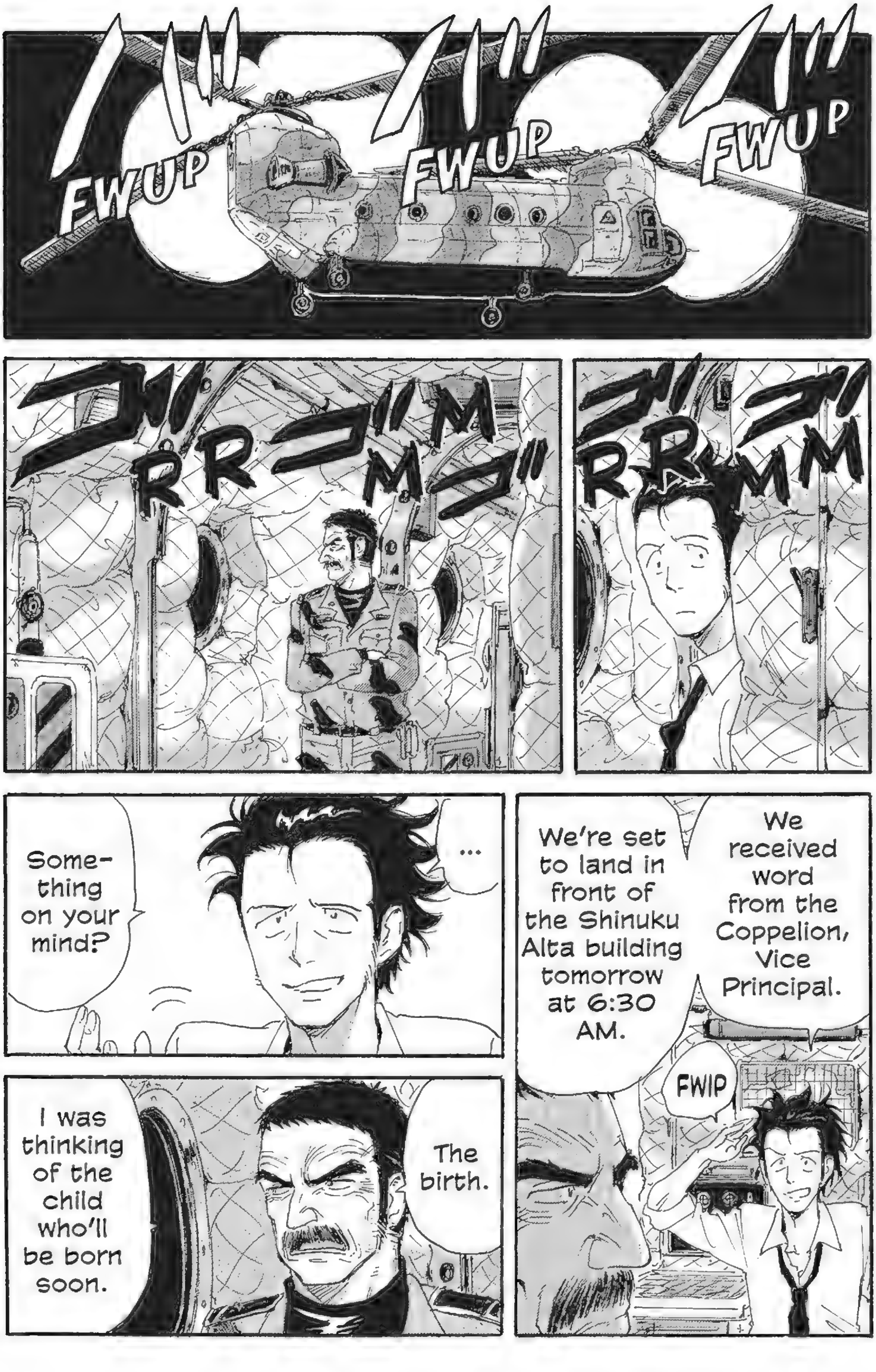

It's pitch black down here.
Well, yeah, there's, like, no power.
CLOP
Okay, the east exit... which way's that?
Dammit, this station's too big!
CLOP
ズドドド
THUD
?!
THUD
THUD
Wh- What's that noise?!
ズドド
THUD
THUD
THUD
It's comin' this way!
LOOK OUT, MISSY! THE ANIMALS'RE STAMPEDIN'!
BEEP GSSH
?!
ズドドド
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD

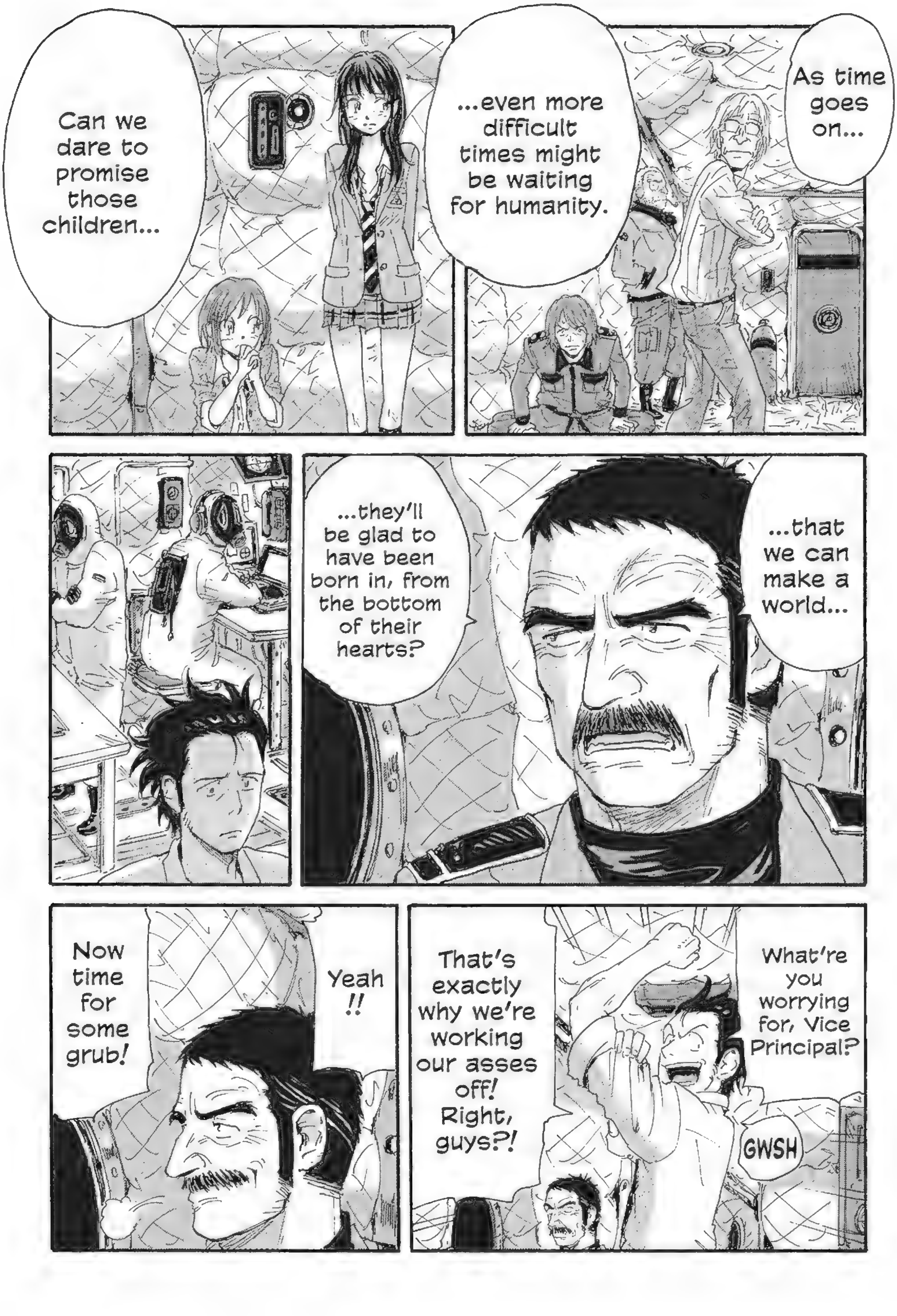
Wha ...?
ド THUD
Where're they *going* ?!
ド THUD
ド THUD
Animals instinctively look for a way out!
We can follow 'em outta here!
ド THUD
ド THUD
ダッ DASH
After them!
Ah! Wait! Ibara!
ド THUD
ド THUD
ド THUD
ド THUD
ド THUD
Look!
It's the exit, Aoi!

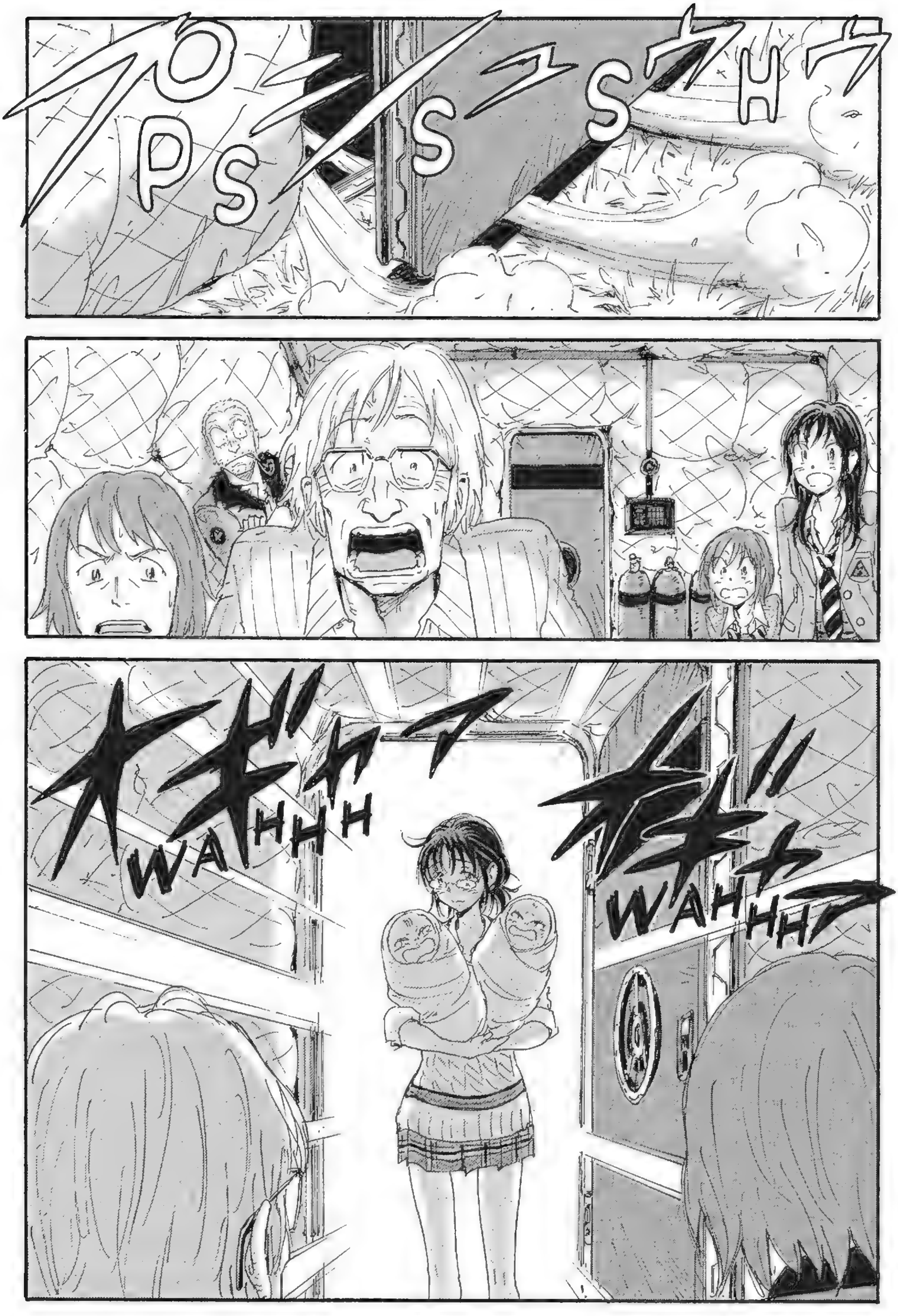

STAR
スター
SWISH
SHINJUKU STATION
HUFF
HUFF
This ...
STUDIO ALTA
...must be the Alta building.

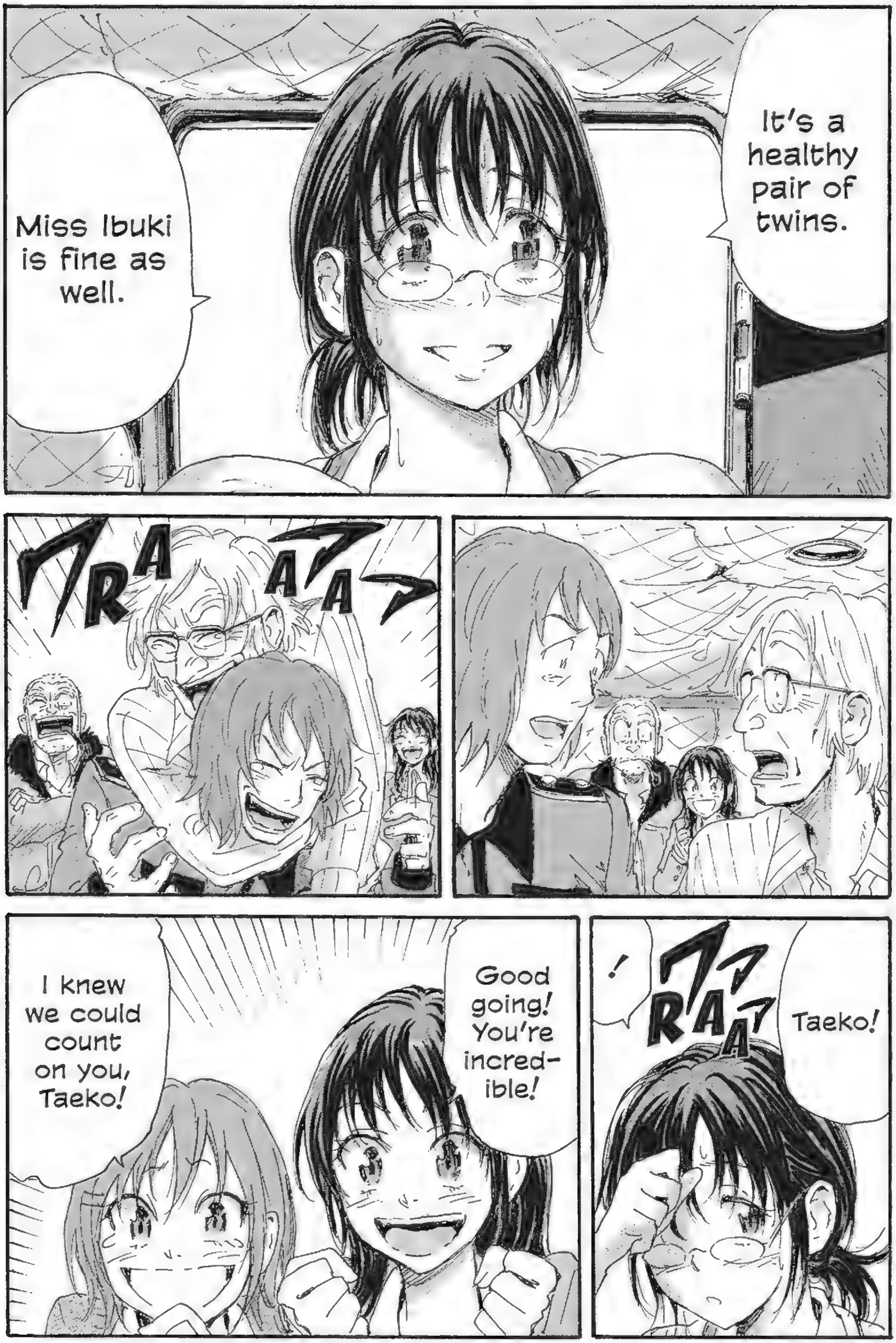

STUDIO ALTA
青山
アオキ
Ibara ...
The animals ...
新宿駅東口
They're all disappearing into the city...

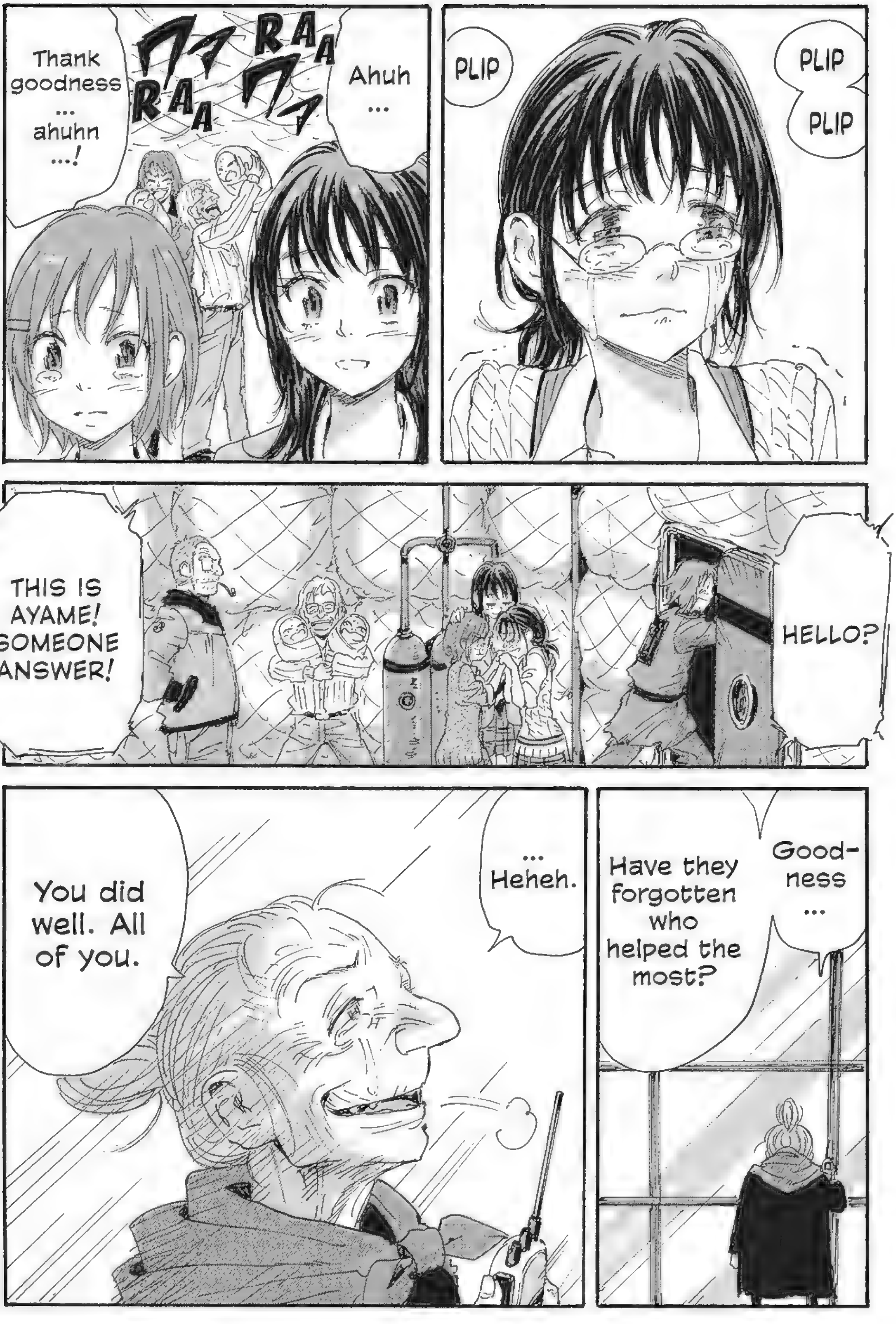

SWISH
Maybe it's...
TWEET
TWEET
...better this way.
They want to stay in Tokyo.
I'm sure of it.
There's enough space...
...for the helicopter to land here.
FAN

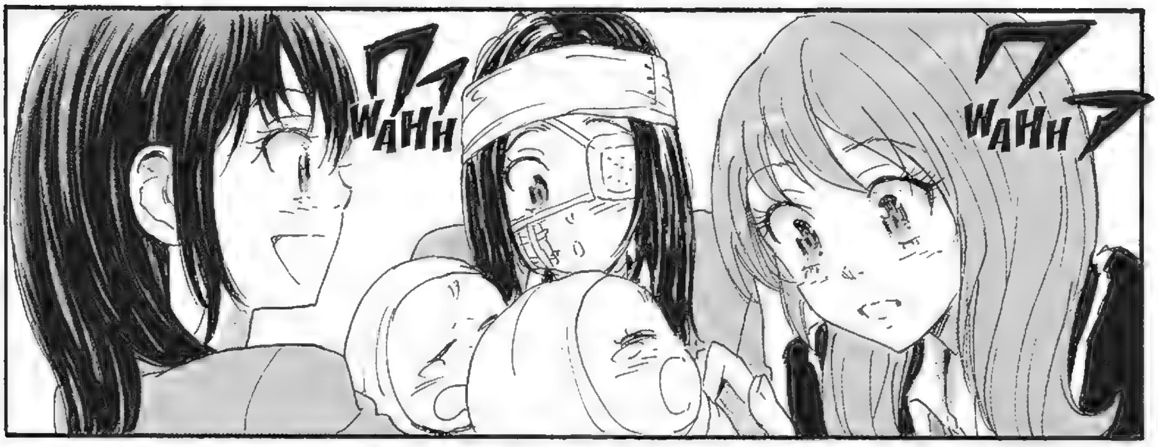

FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
RRMM
RRMM
FWIP
We received word from the Coppelion, Vice Principal.
We're set to land in front of the Shinuku Alta building tomorrow at 6:30 AM.
...
Some-thing on your mind?
The birth.
I was thinking of the child who'll be born soon.

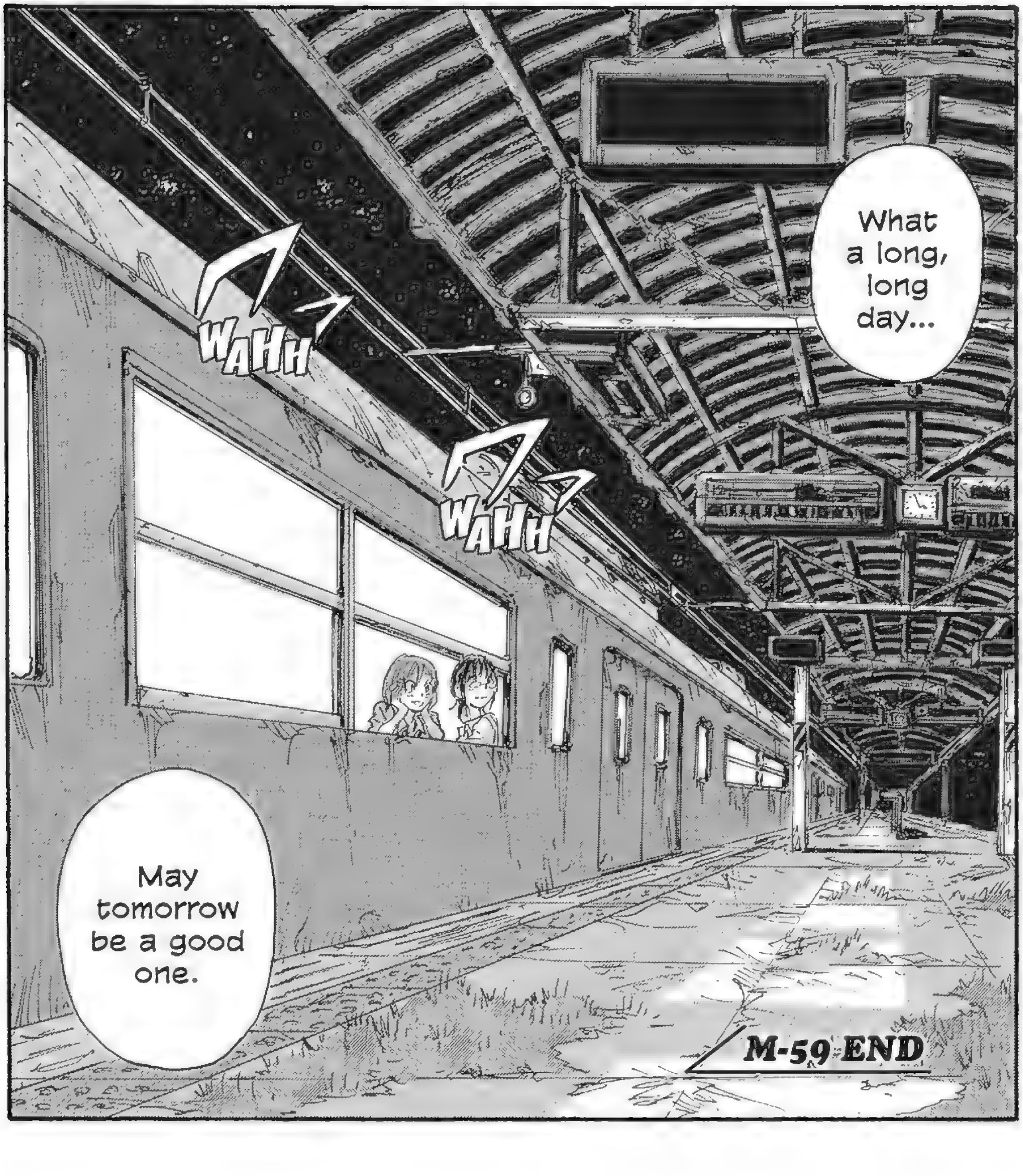

As time goes on...
...even more difficult times might be waiting for humanity.
Can we dare to promise those children...
...that we can make a world...
...they'll be glad to have been born in, from the bottom of their hearts?
What're you worrying for, Vice Principal?
GWSH
That's exactly why we're working our asses off! Right, guys?!
Yeah!!
Now time for some grub!

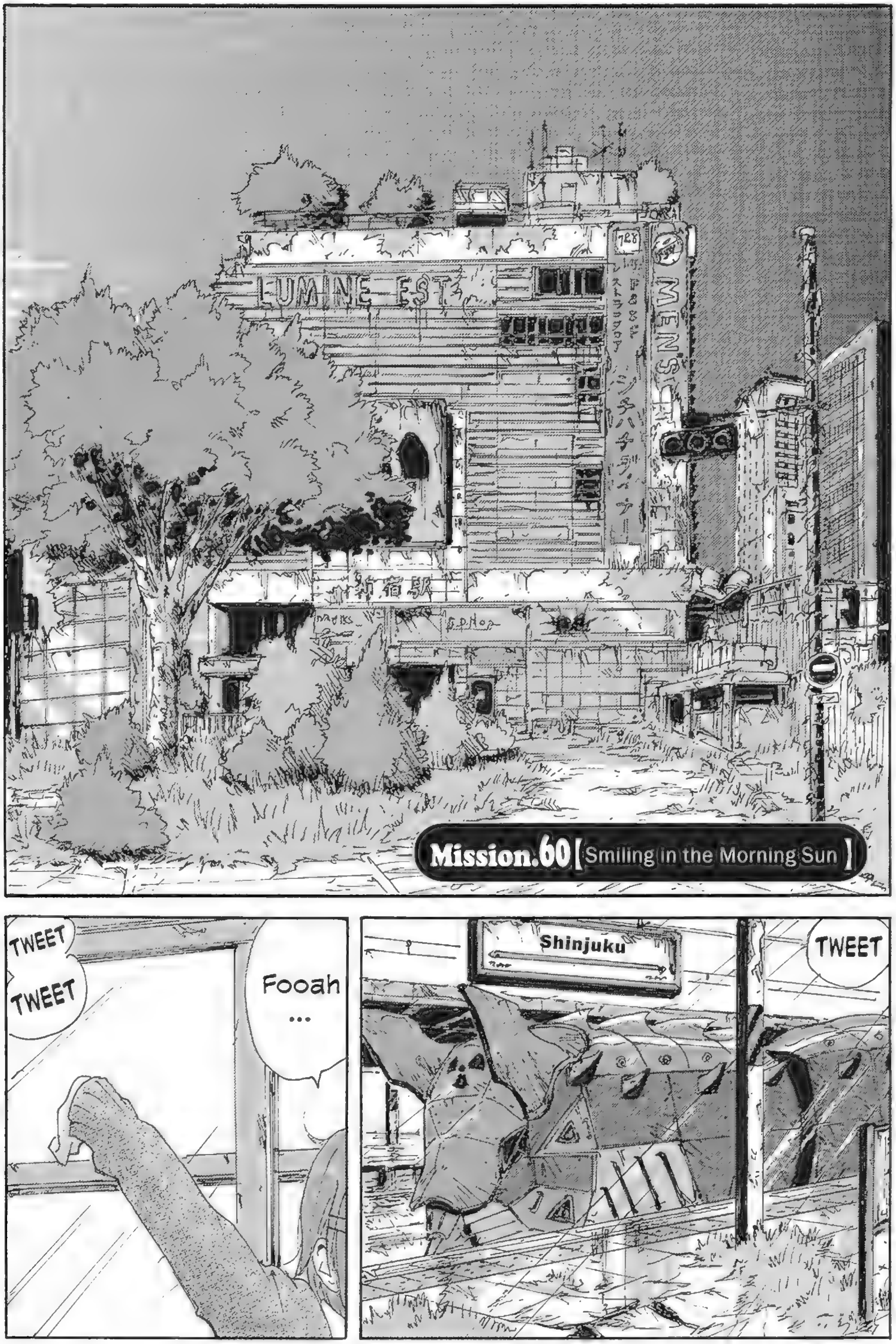

プシュウ
PSSSH
オギャア
WAHHH
オギャア
WAHHH


It's a healthy pair of twins.
Miss Ibuki is fine as well.
RAAAA
!
RAAA
Taeko!
Good going! You're incredible!
I knew we could count on you, Taeko!


PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
Ahuh ...
ワァ RAA ワァ RAA
Thank goodness ... ahuhn ...!
HELLO?
THIS IS AYAME! SOMEONE ANSWER!
Goodness ...
Have they forgotten who helped the most?
... Heheh.
You did well. All of you.

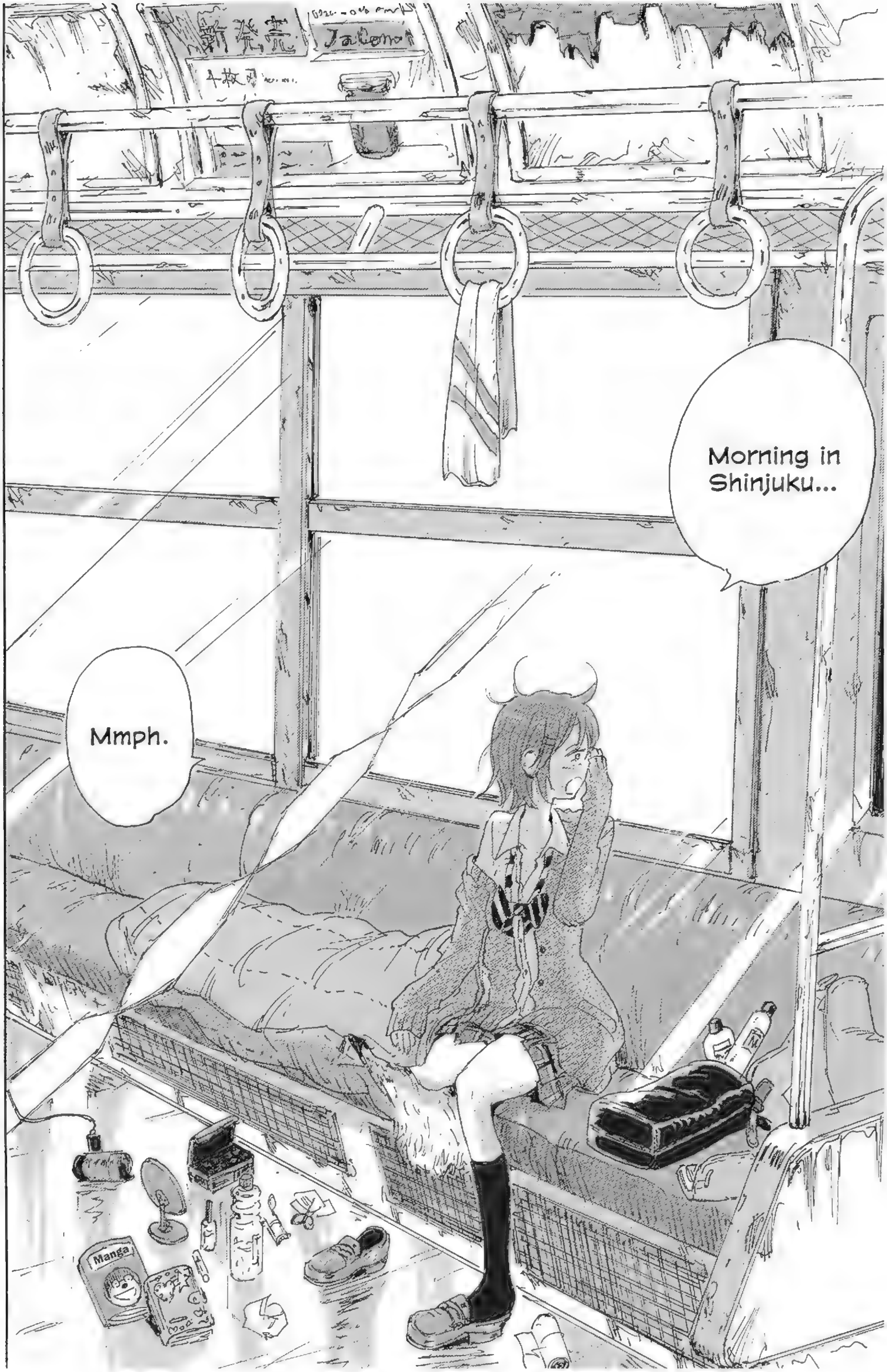

ワァ WAHH
ワァ WAHH

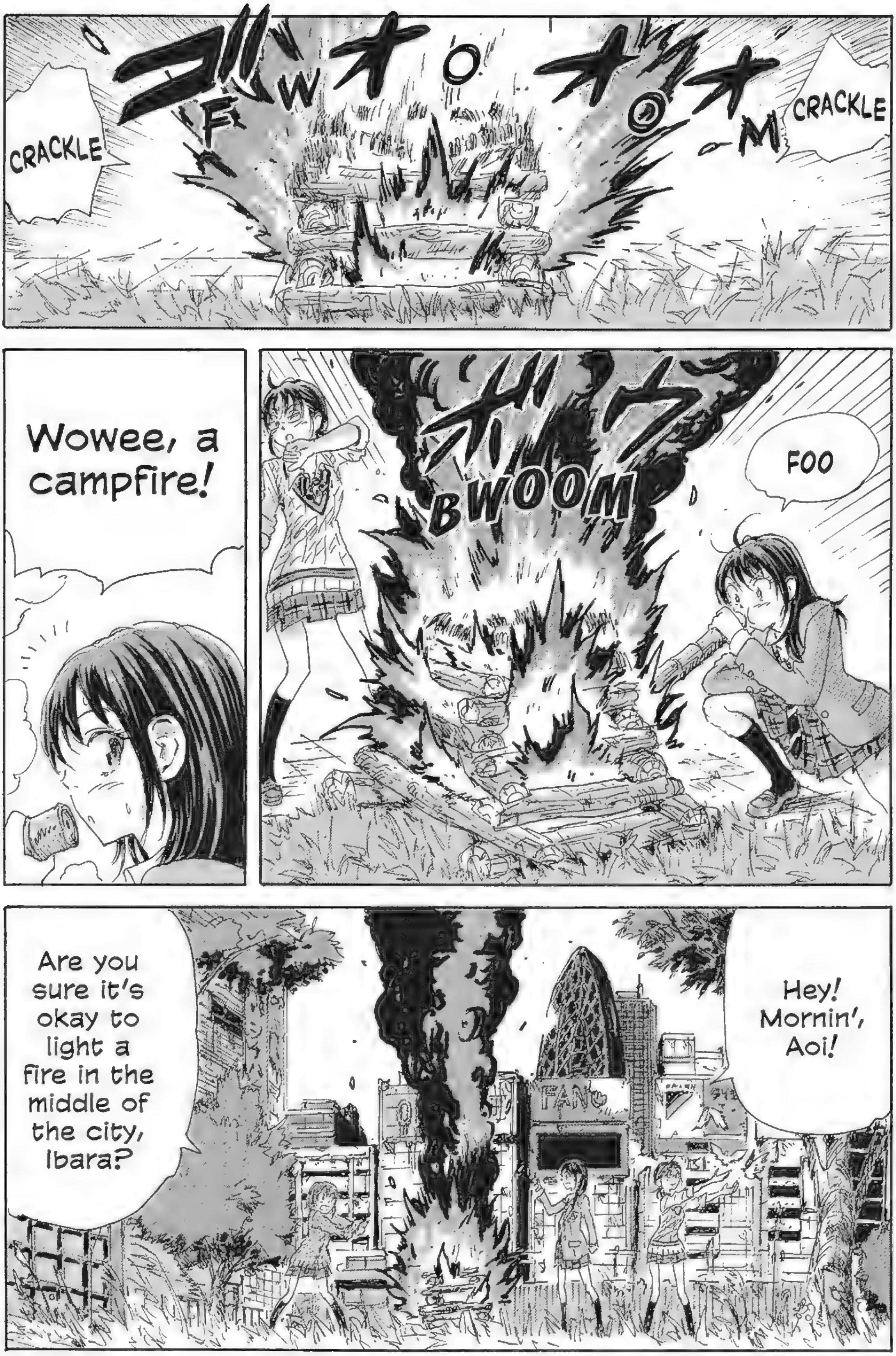

What a long, long day...
ワァ WAHH
ワァ WAHH
May tomorrow be a good one.
M-59 END

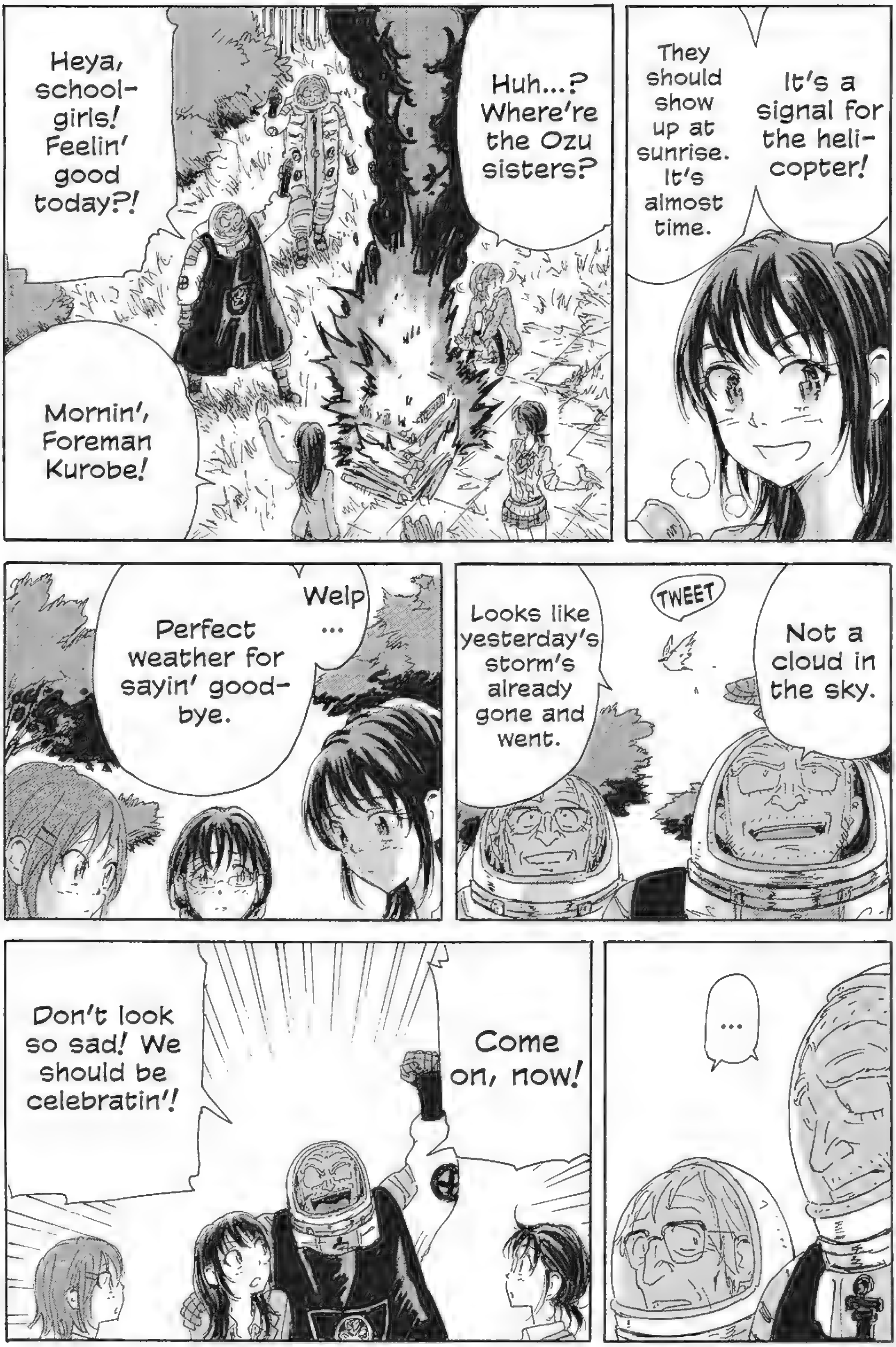


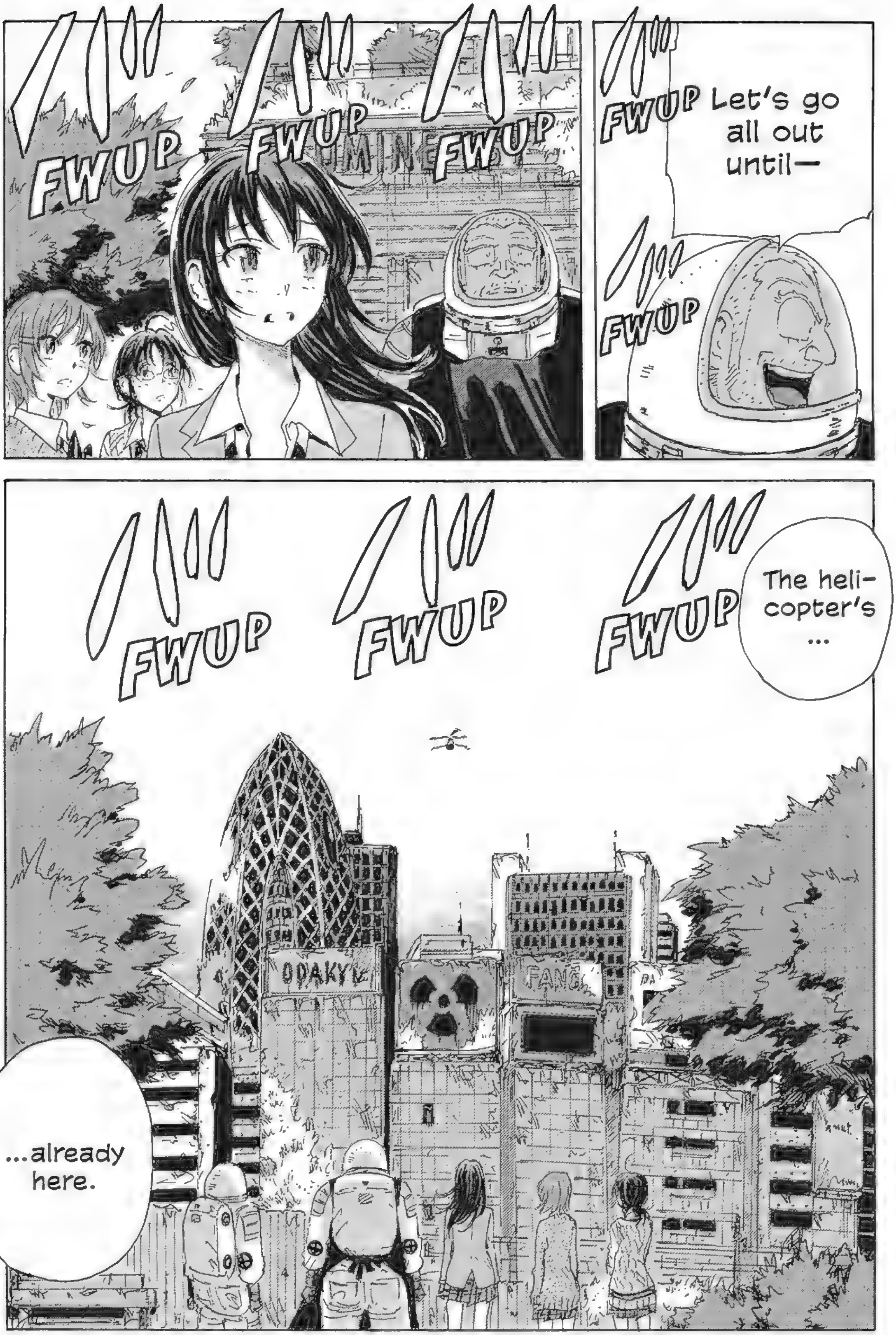
Mission.60 [Smiling in the Morning Sun]

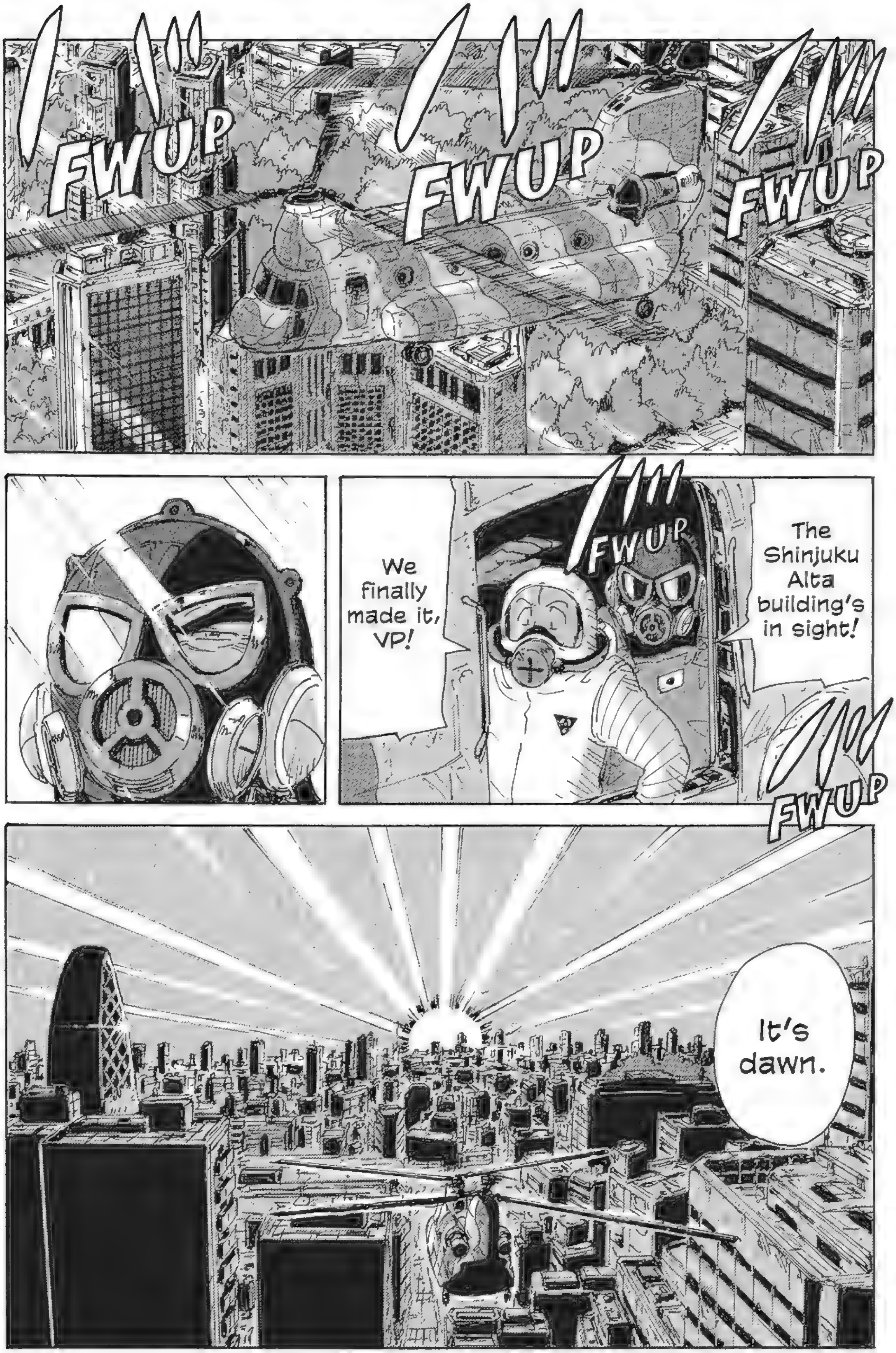
LUMINE EST
MENS
新宿駅
Shinjuku
TWEET
Fooah ...
TWEET
TWEET

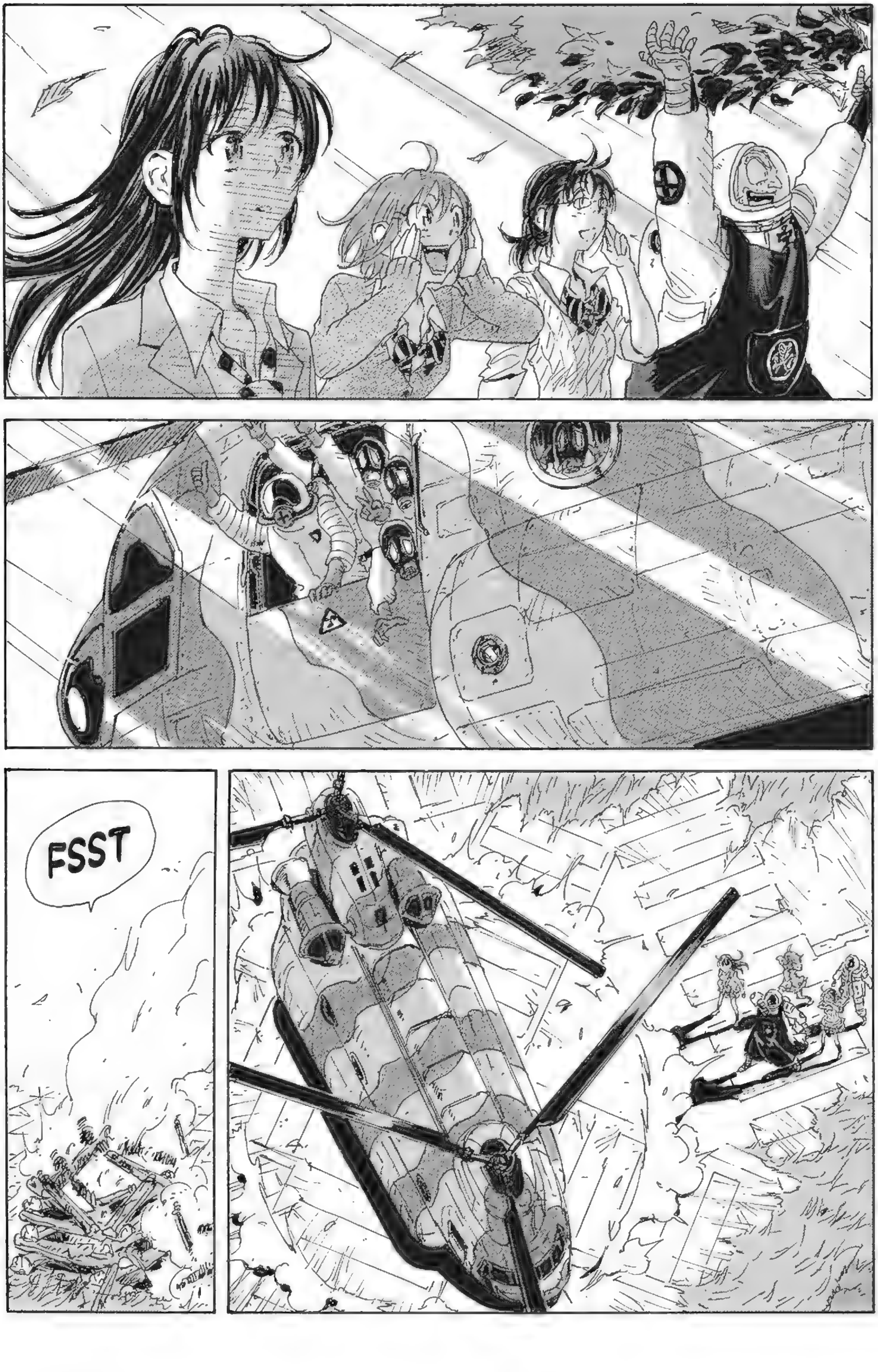

新発売
Morning in Shinjuku...
Mmph.
Manga

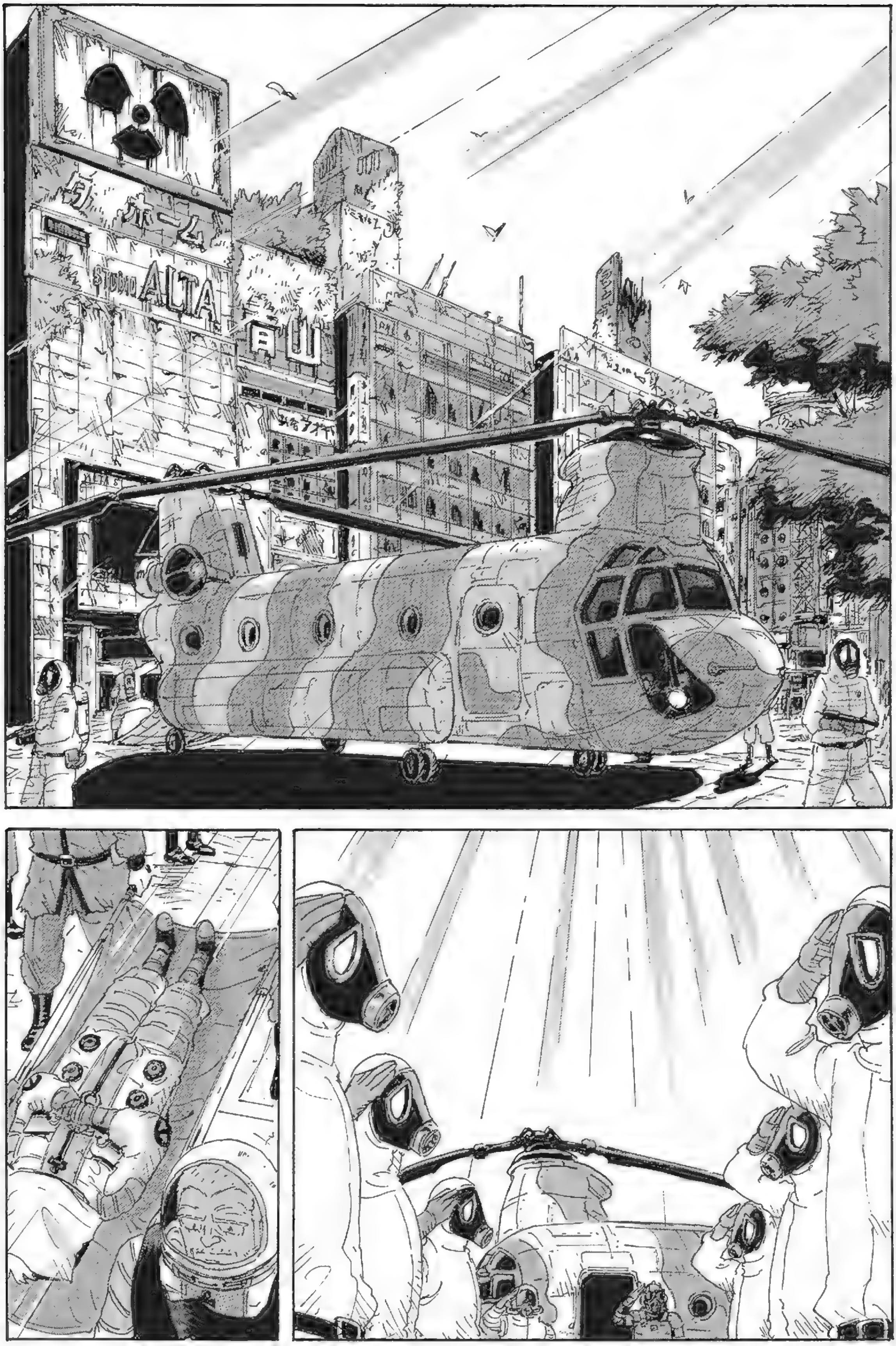

CRACKLE
FWOOM
CRACKLE
FOO
BWOOM
Wowee, a campfire!
Hey! Mornin', Aoi!
Are you sure it's okay to light a fire in the middle of the city, Ibara?

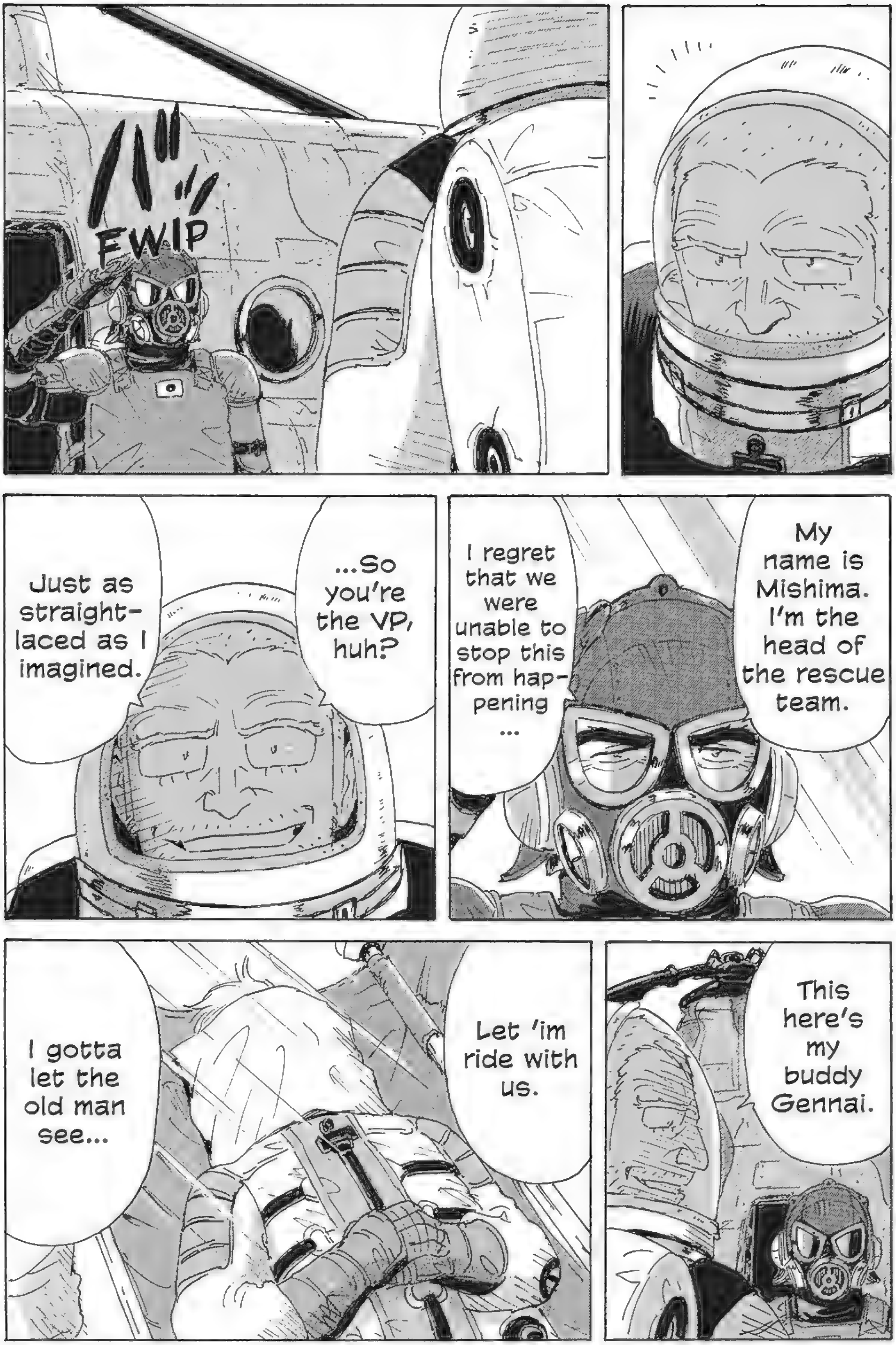

Heya, schoolgirls! Feelin' good today?!
Mornin', Foreman Kurobe!
Huh...? Where're the Ozu sisters?
They should show up at sunrise. It's almost time.
It's a signal for the helicopter!
Welp...
Perfect weather for sayin' goodbye.
Looks like yesterday's storm's already gone and went.
TWEET
Not a cloud in the sky.
Don't look so sad! We should be celebratin'!
Come on, now!
...

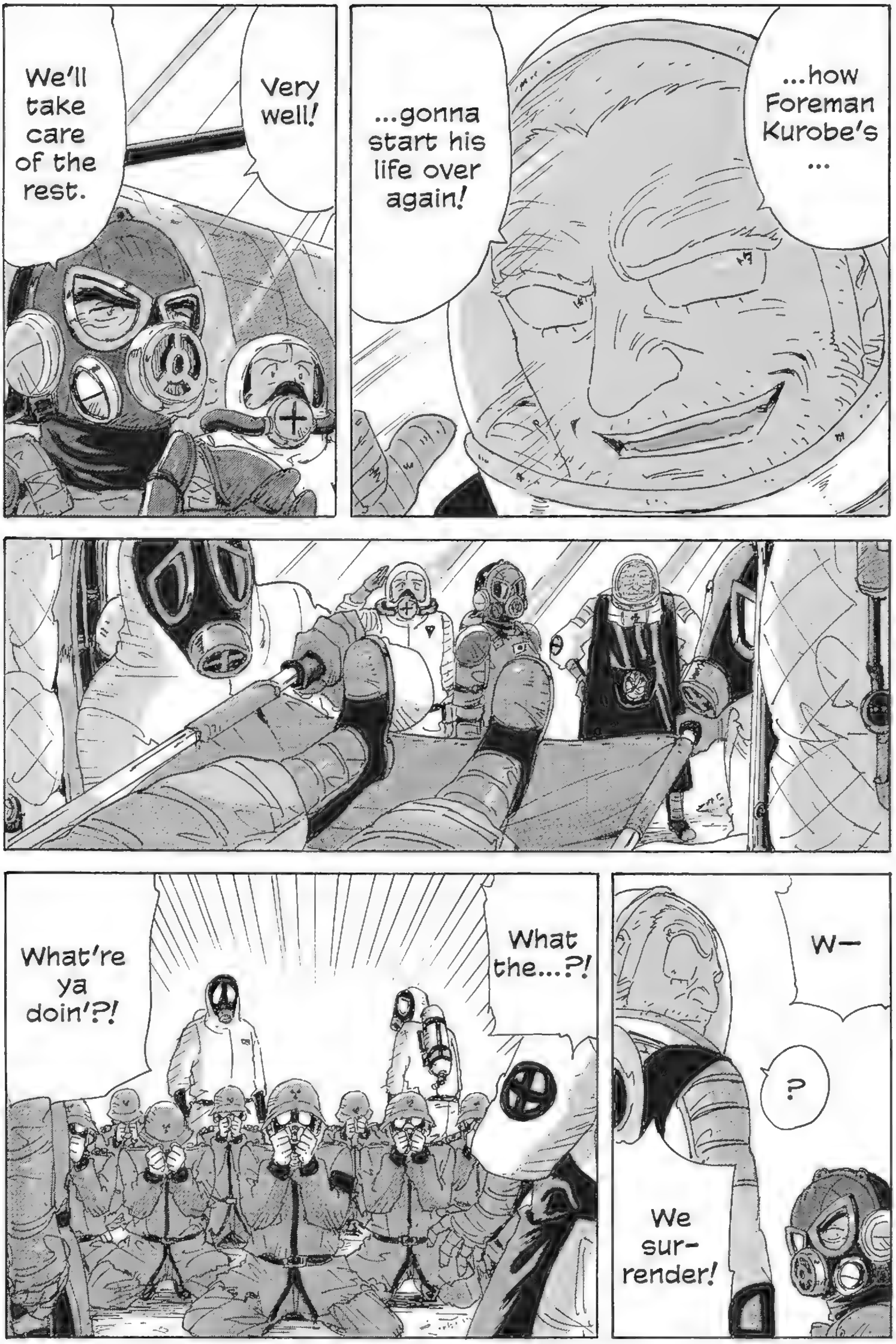

FWUP
Let's go all out until—
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
MINE
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
The heli-copter's ...
ODAKYU
FANC
...already here.

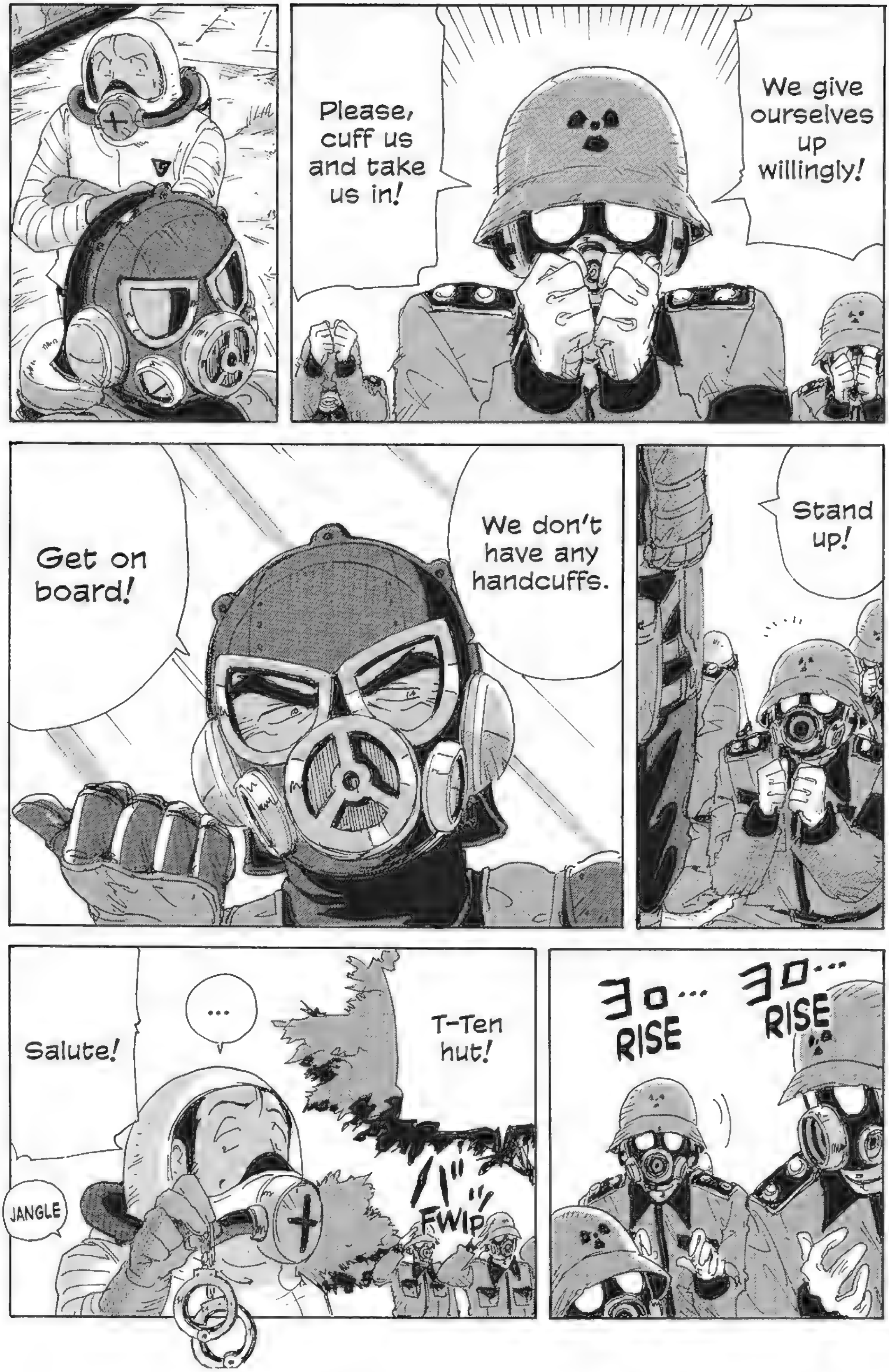

FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
The Shinjuku Alta building's in sight!
We finally made it, VP!
FWUP
It's dawn.

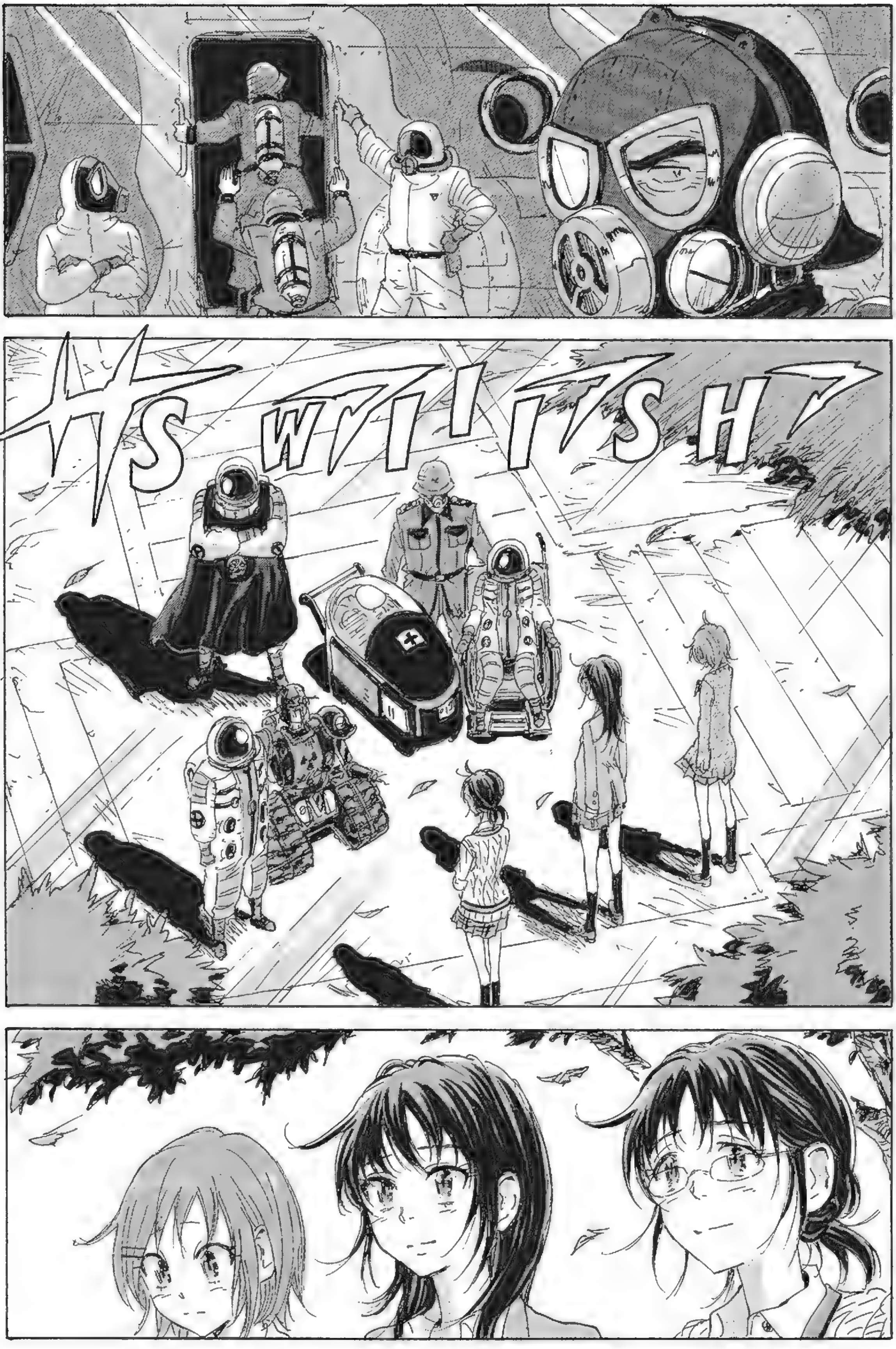

FSST

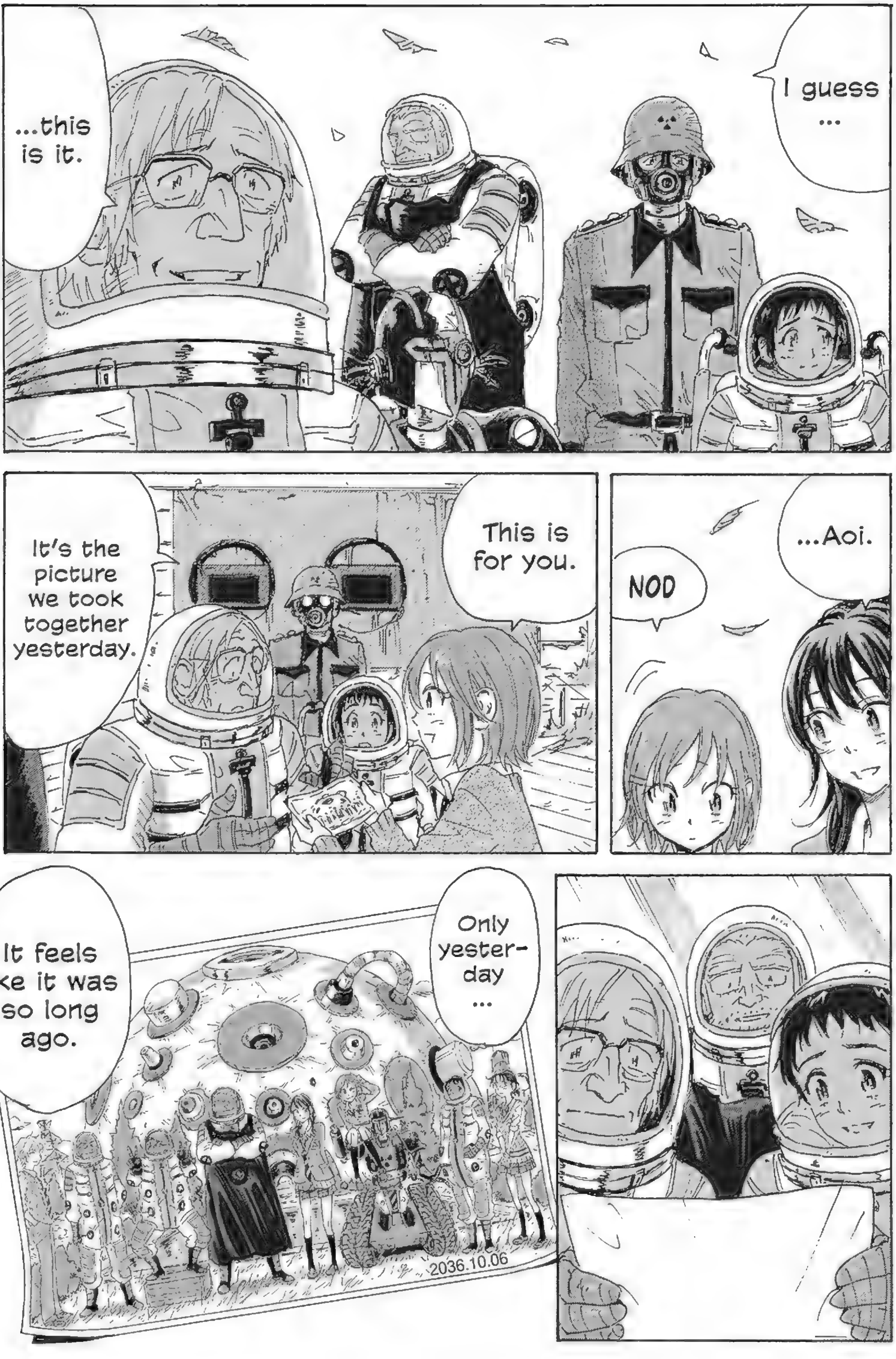

ホーム
STUDIO ALTA

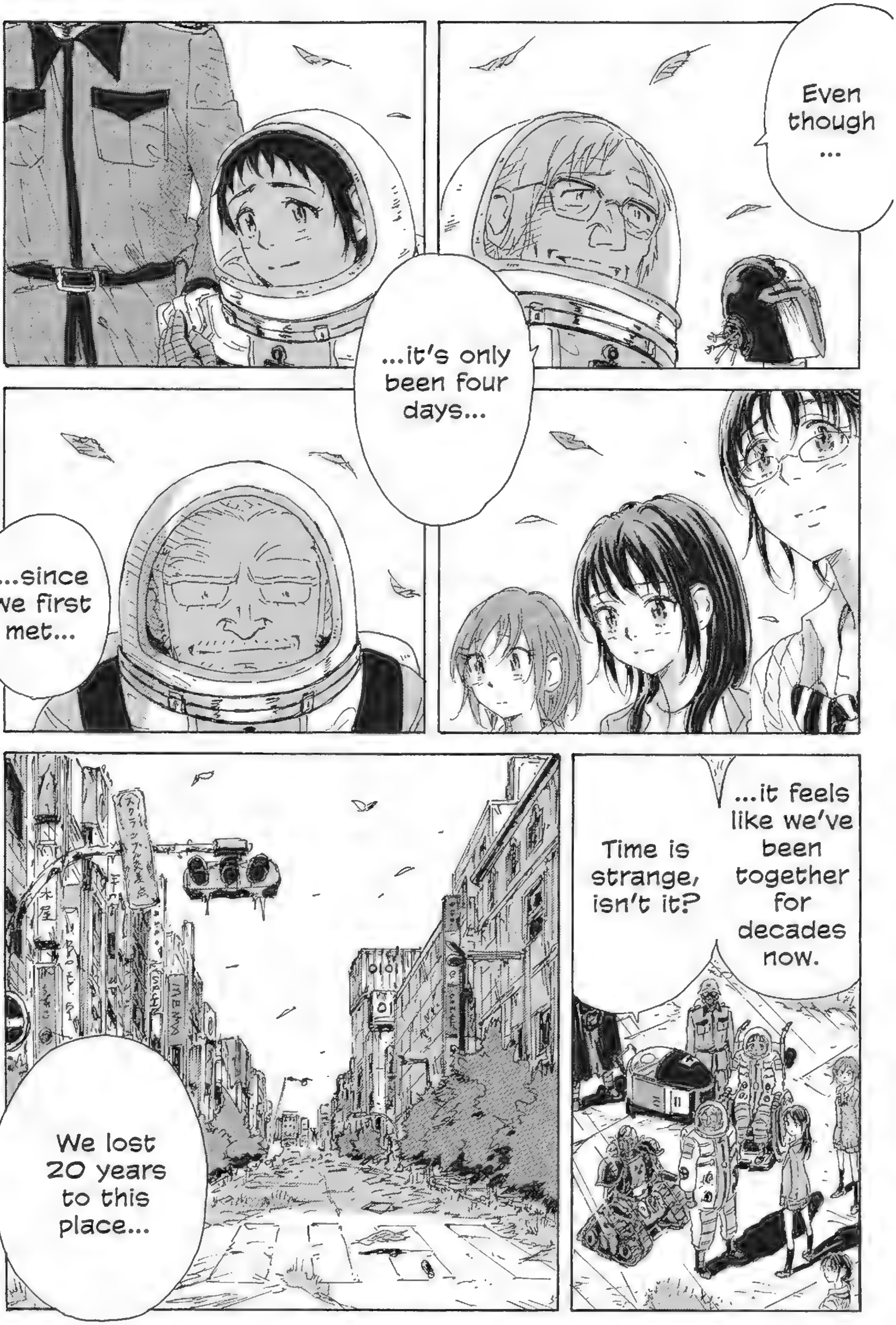

FWIP
My name is Mishima. I'm the head of the rescue team.
I regret that we were unable to stop this from happening...
...So you're the VP, huh?
Just as straight-laced as I imagined.
This here's my buddy Gennai.
Let 'im ride with us.
I gotta let the old man see...

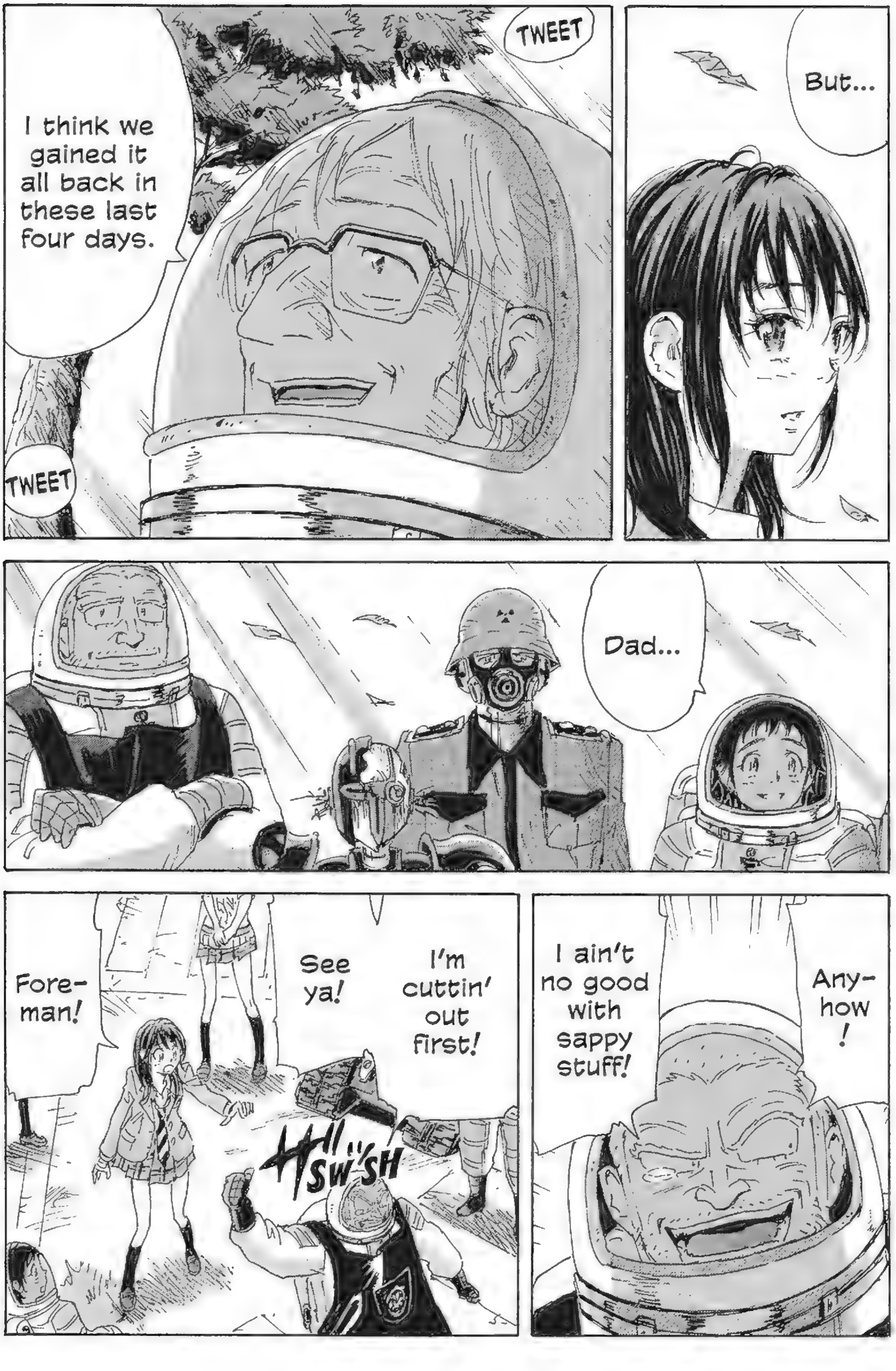

...how Foreman Kurobe's ...
...gonna start his life over again!
Very well!
We'll take care of the rest.
W—
?
We surrender!
What the...?!
What're ya doin'?!

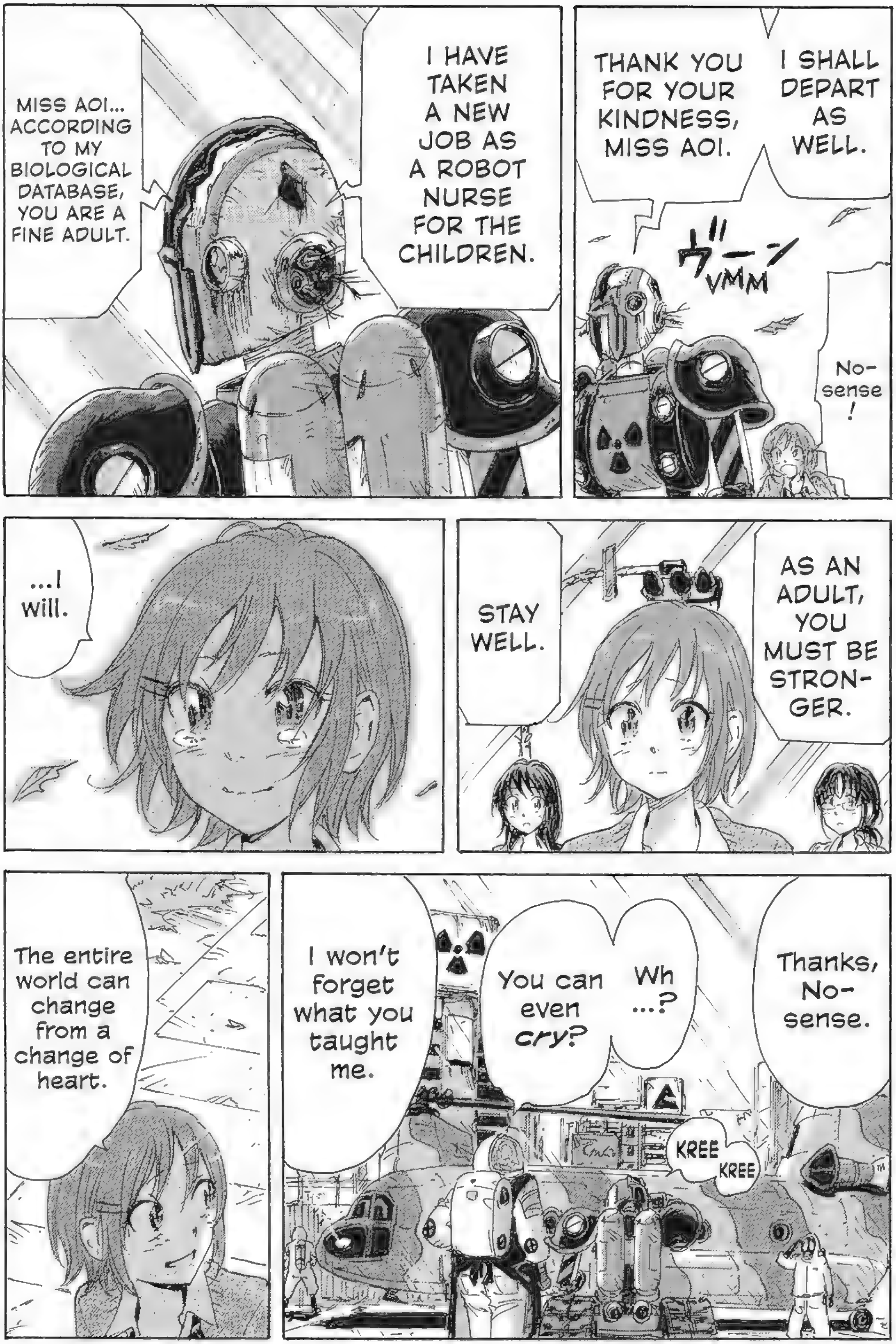

We give ourselves up willingly!
Please, cuff us and take us in!
Stand up!
We don't have any handcuffs.
Get on board!
ヨロ… RISE
ヨロ… RISE
T-Ten hut!
FWIP
…
Salute!
JANGLE

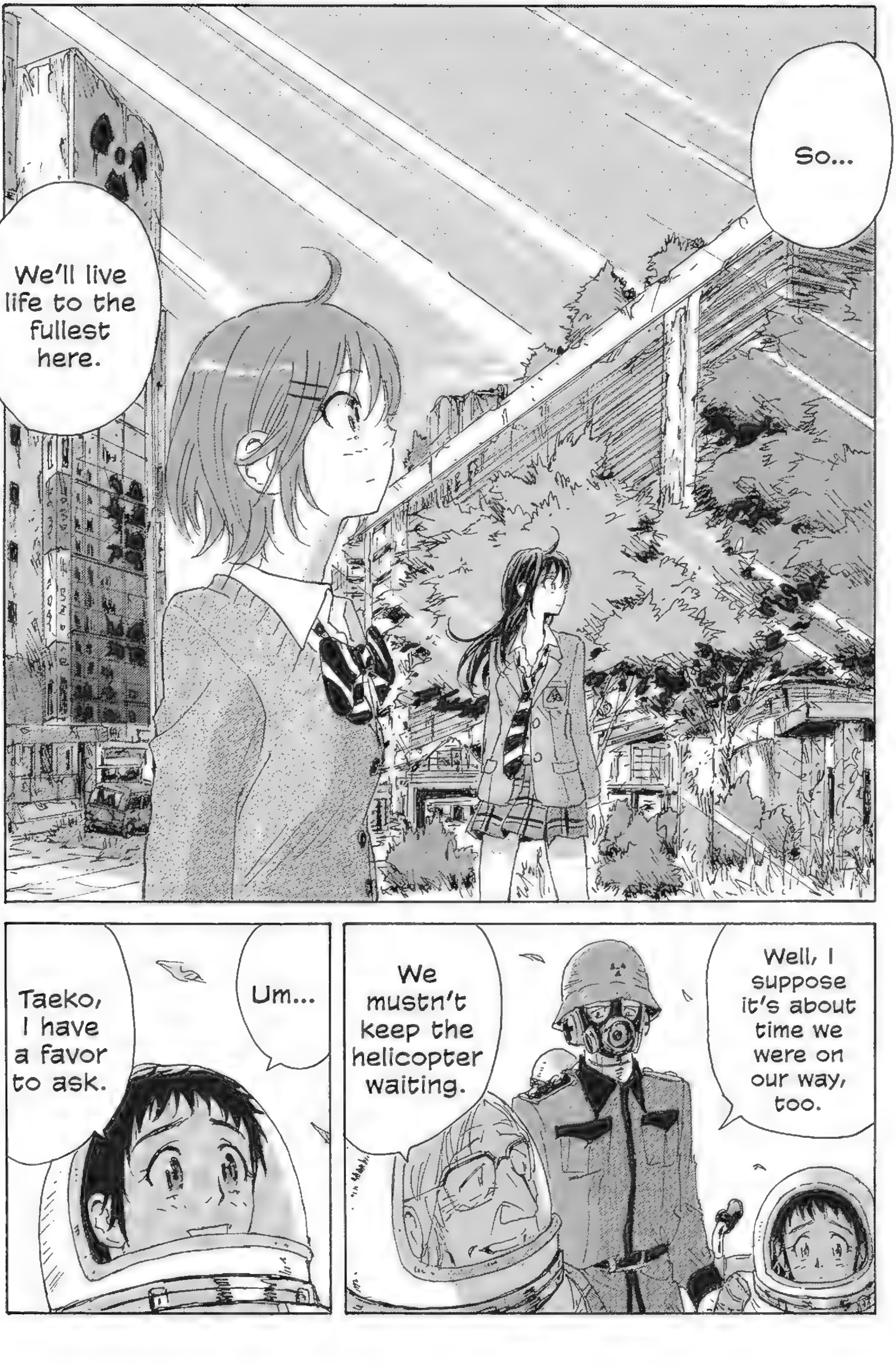

SWIIISH

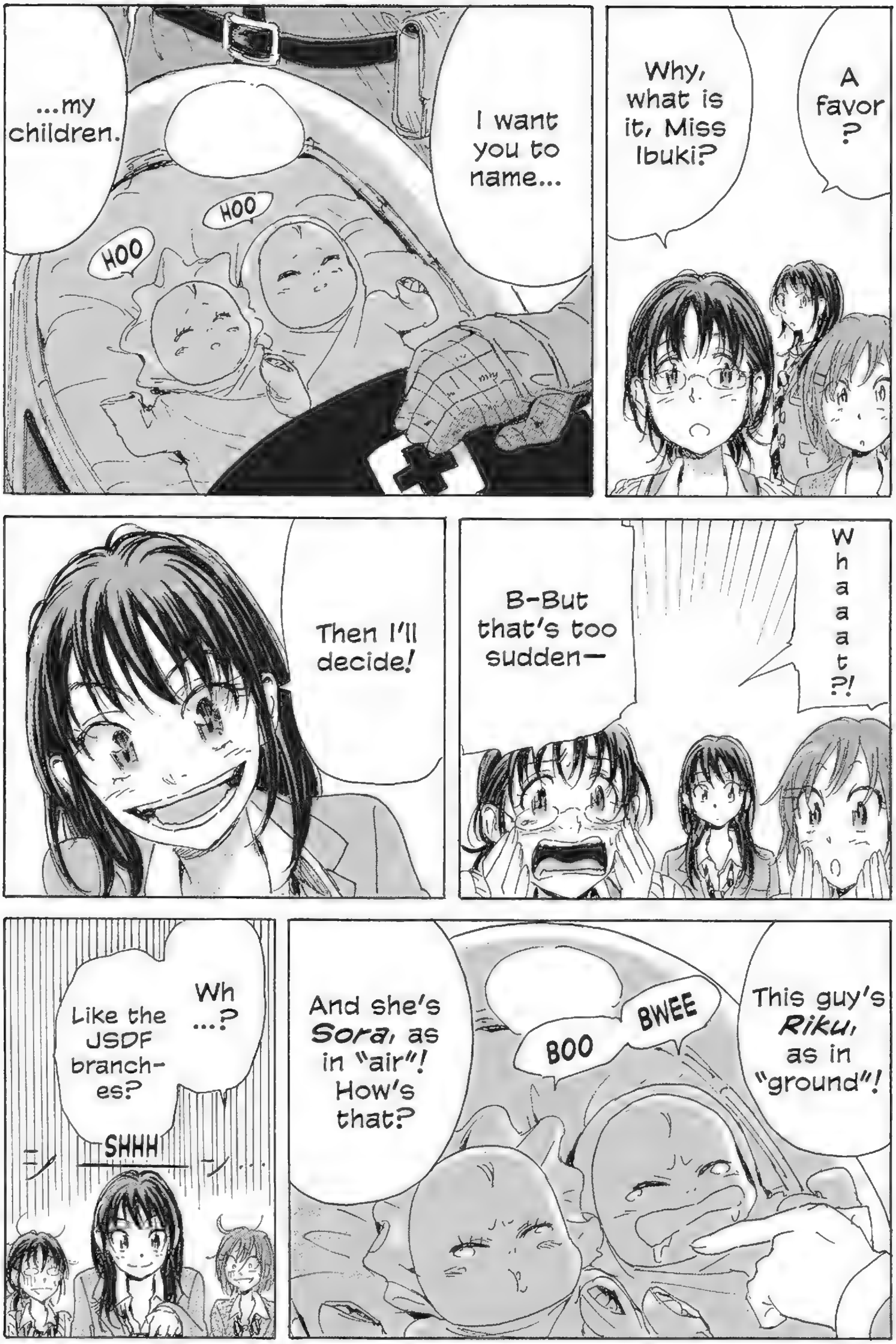

I guess ...
...this is it.
...Aoi.
NOD
This is for you.
It's the picture we took together yesterday.
Only yester-day ...
It feels like it was so long ago.
2036.10.06

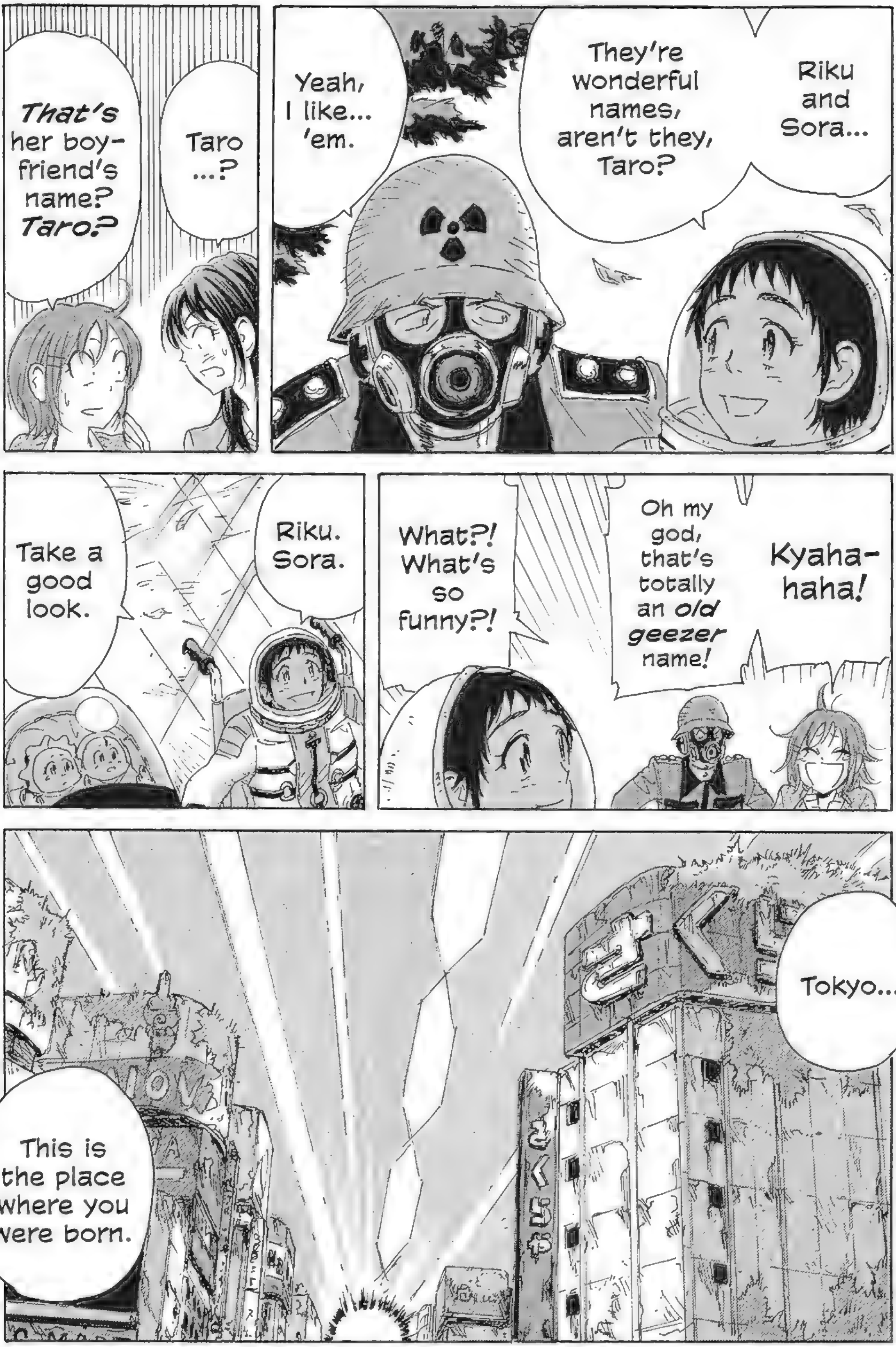

Even though...
...it's only been four days...
...since we first met...
...it feels like we've been together for decades now.
Time is strange, isn't it?
スクランブル交差点
本屋
We lost 20 years to this place...

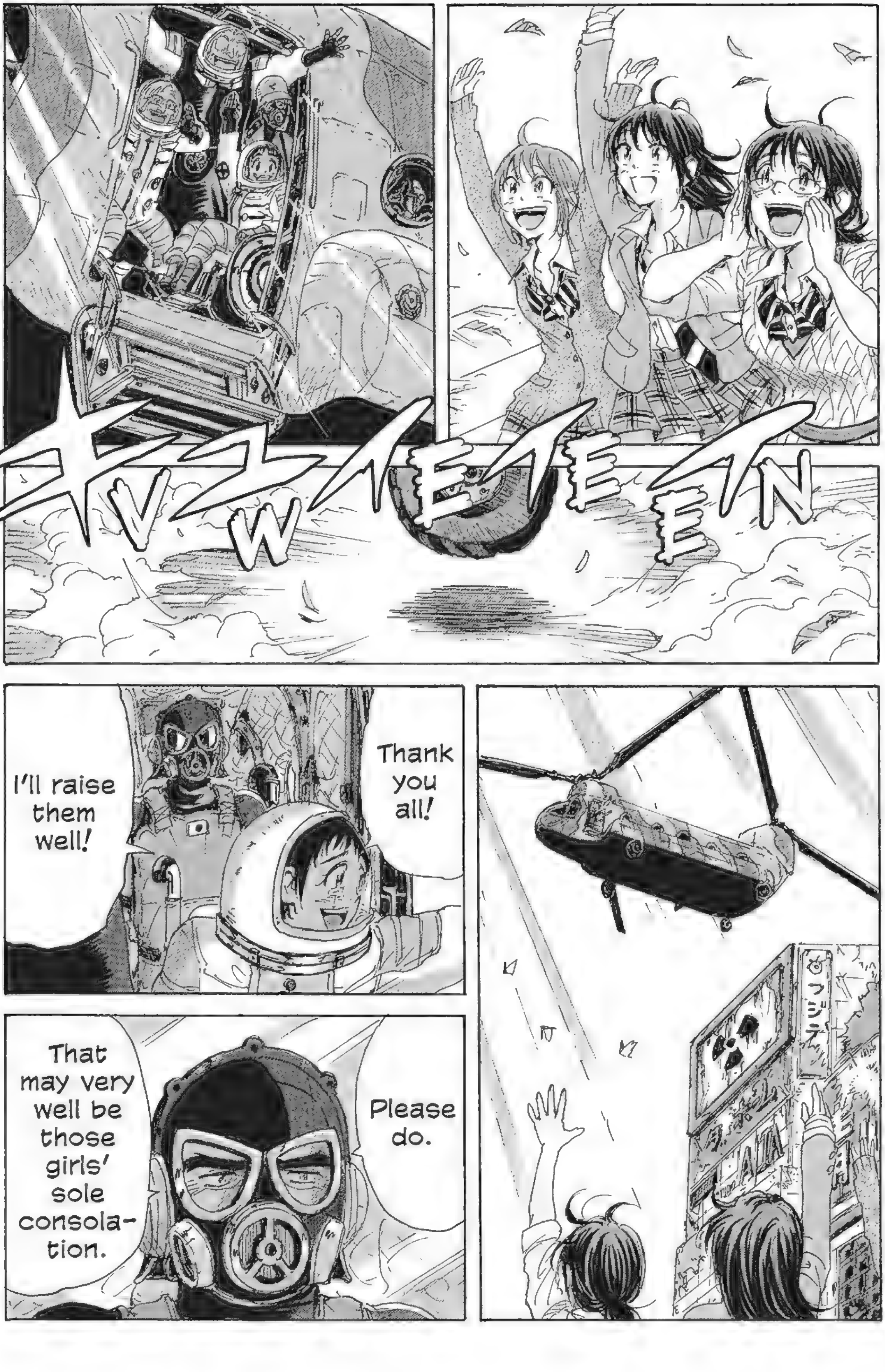

But...
TWEET
I think we gained it all back in these last four days.
TWEET
Dad...
Any-how!
I ain't no good with sappy stuff!
I'm cuttin' out first!
See ya!
Fore-man!
SWISH

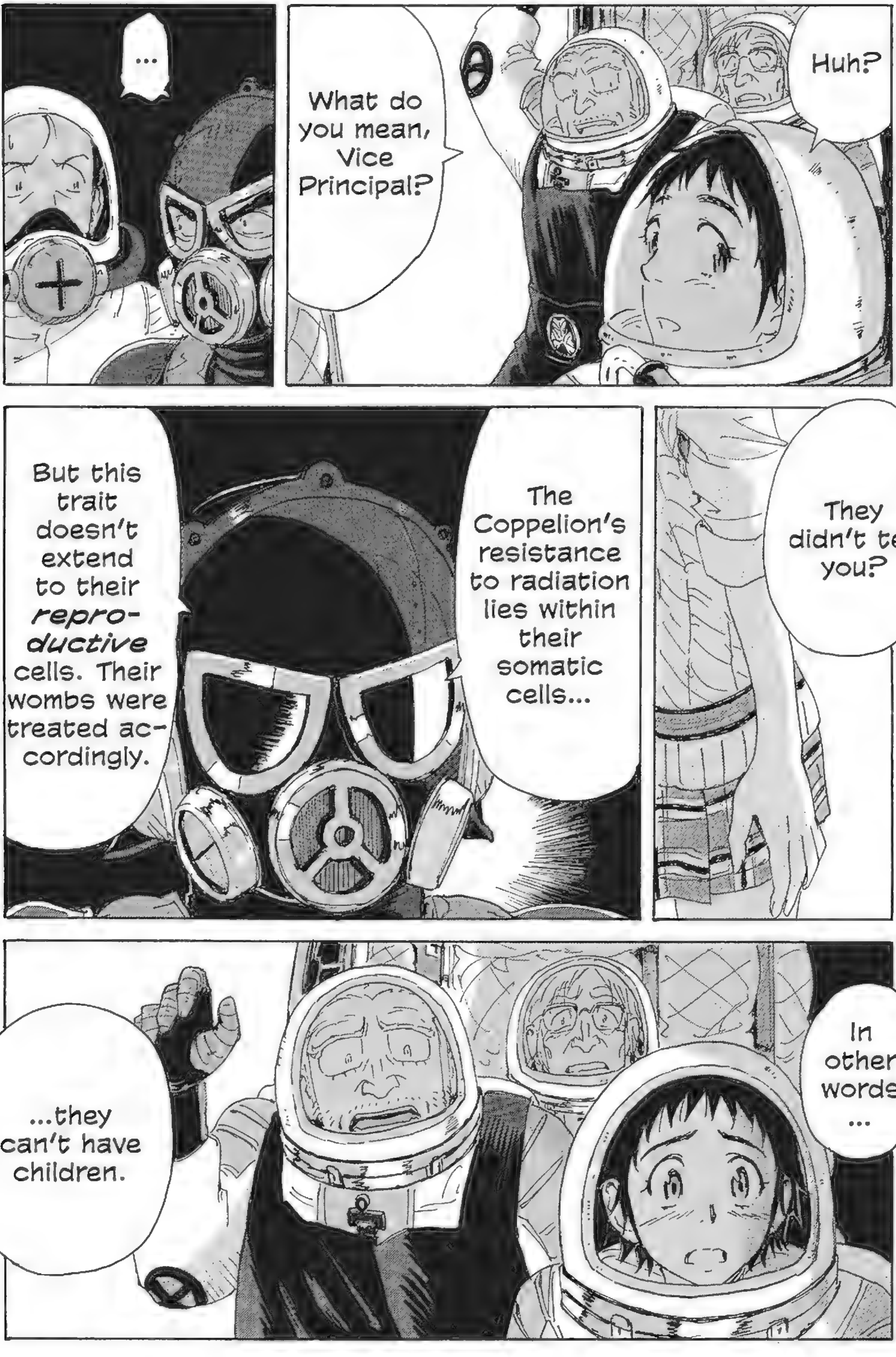

I SHALL DEPART AS WELL.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS, MISS AOI.
ヴーン VMM
No-sense!
I HAVE TAKEN A NEW JOB AS A ROBOT NURSE FOR THE CHILDREN.
MISS AOI... ACCORDING TO MY BIOLOGICAL DATABASE, YOU ARE A FINE ADULT.
AS AN ADULT, YOU MUST BE STRONGER.
STAY WELL.
...I will.
Thanks, No-sense.
Wh...?
You can even *cry*?
KREE KREE
I won't forget what you taught me.
The entire world can change from a change of heart.

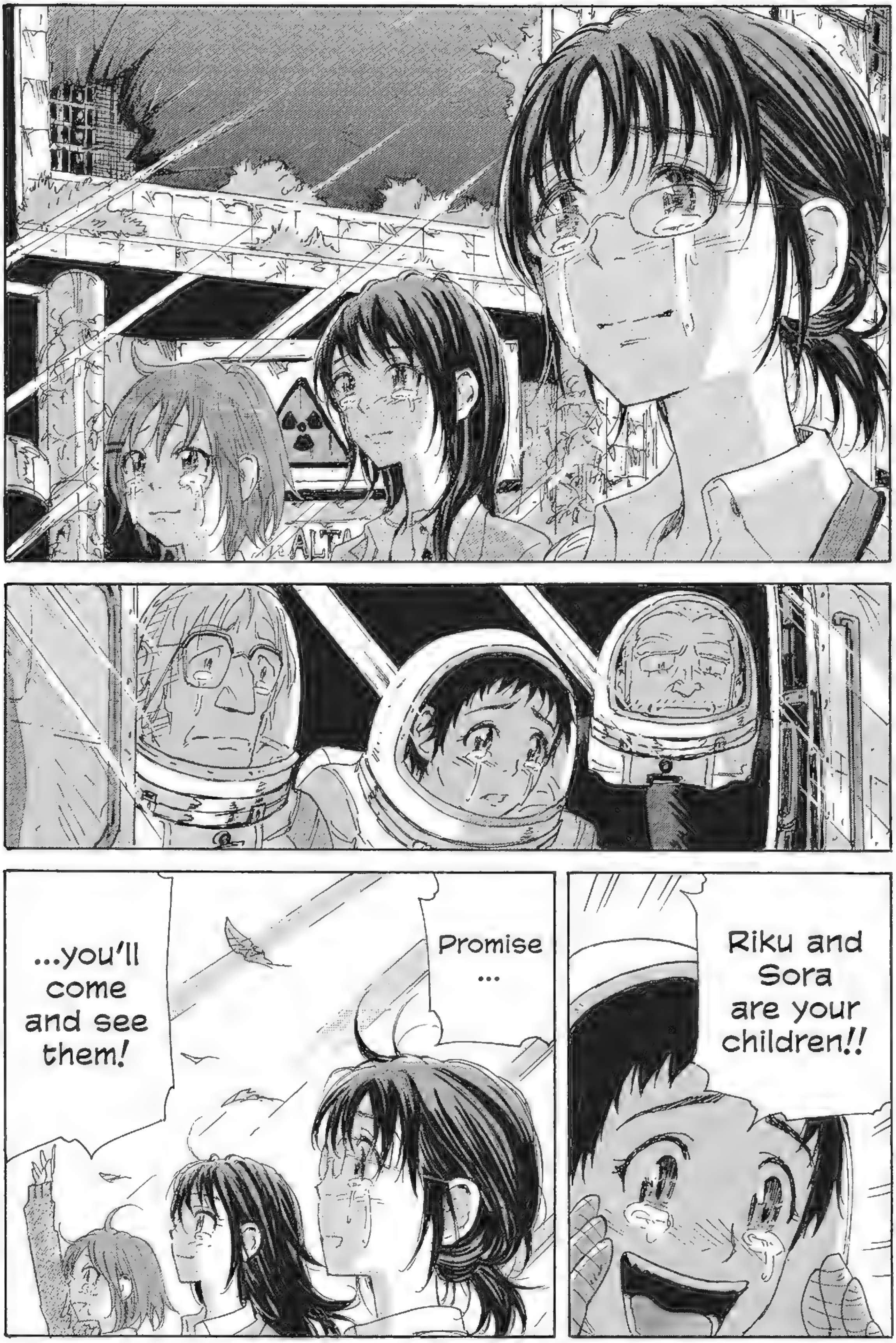

So...
We'll live life to the fullest here.
Well, I suppose it's about time we were on our way, too.
We mustn't keep the helicopter waiting.
Um...
Taeko, I have a favor to ask.

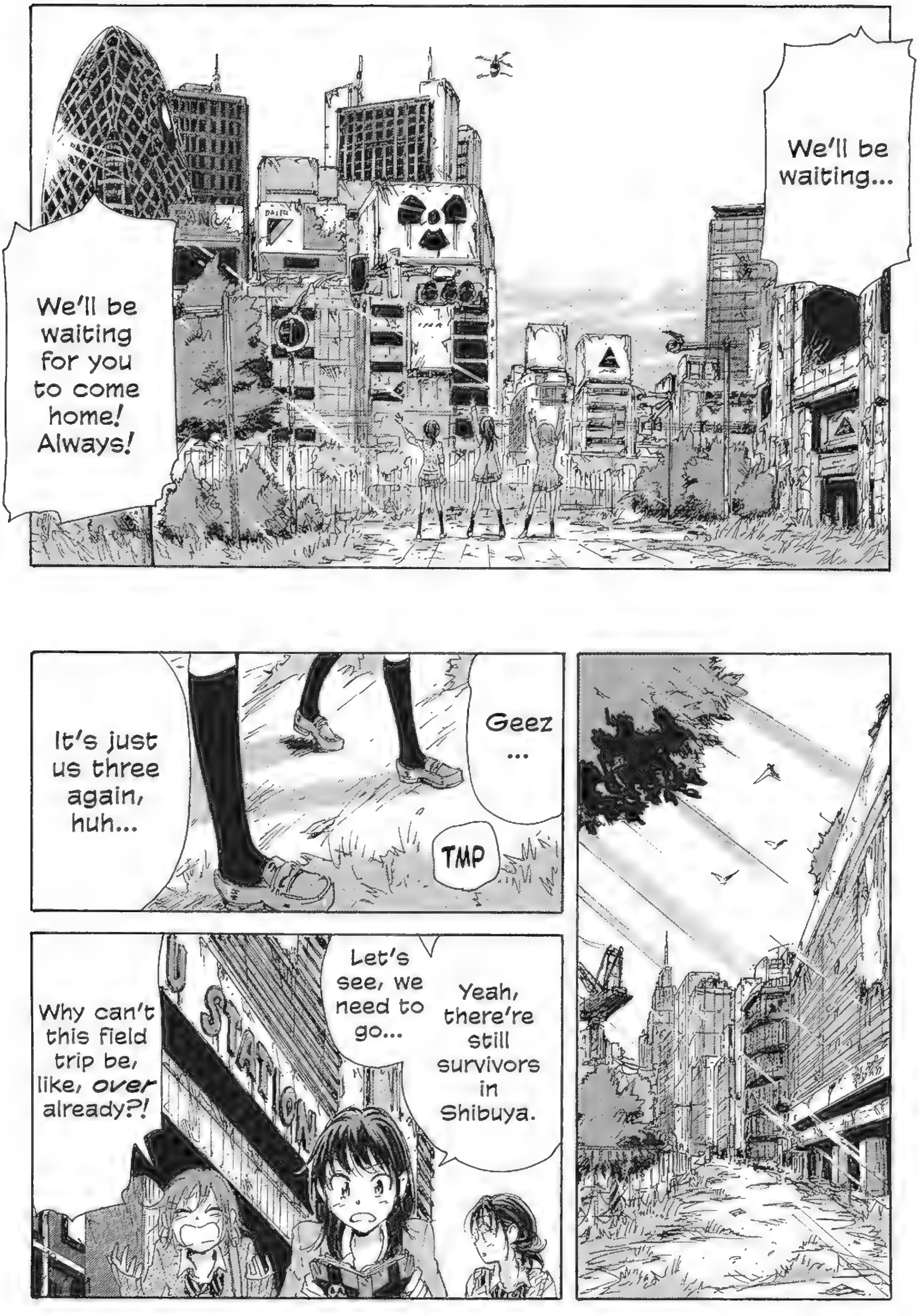

A favor?
Why, what is it, Miss Ibuki?
I want you to name...
...my children.
HOO
HOO
Whaaat?!
B-But that's too sudden—
Then I'll decide!
This guy's *Riku*, as in "ground"!
BWEE
BOO
And she's *Sora*, as in "air"! How's that?
Wh...?
Like the JSDF branches?
SHHH

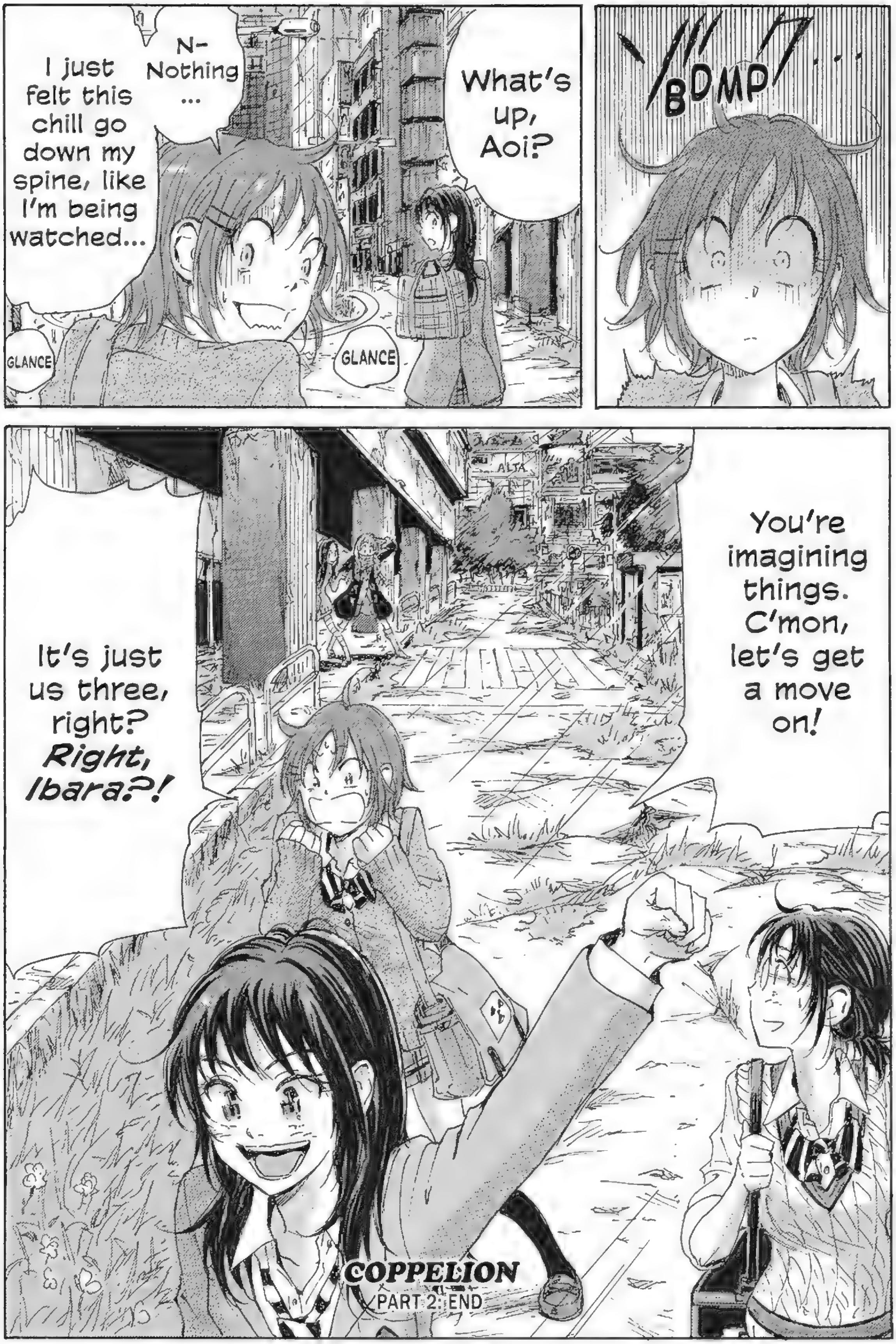

Riku and Sora...
They're wonderful names, aren't they, Taro?
Yeah, I like... 'em.
Taro ...?
That's her boyfriend's name? *Taro?*
Kyahahaha!
Oh my god, that's totally an *old geezer* name!
What?! What's so funny?!
Riku. Sora.
Take a good look.
Tokyo...
This is the place where you were born.


VWEEEN
Thank you all!
I'll raise them well!
フジテ
Please do.
That may very well be those girls' sole consolation.


...
Huh?
What do you mean, Vice Principal?
They didn't tell you?
The Coppelion's resistance to radiation lies within their somatic cells...
But this trait doesn't extend to their *reproductive* cells. Their wombs were treated accordingly.
In other words...
...they can't have children.

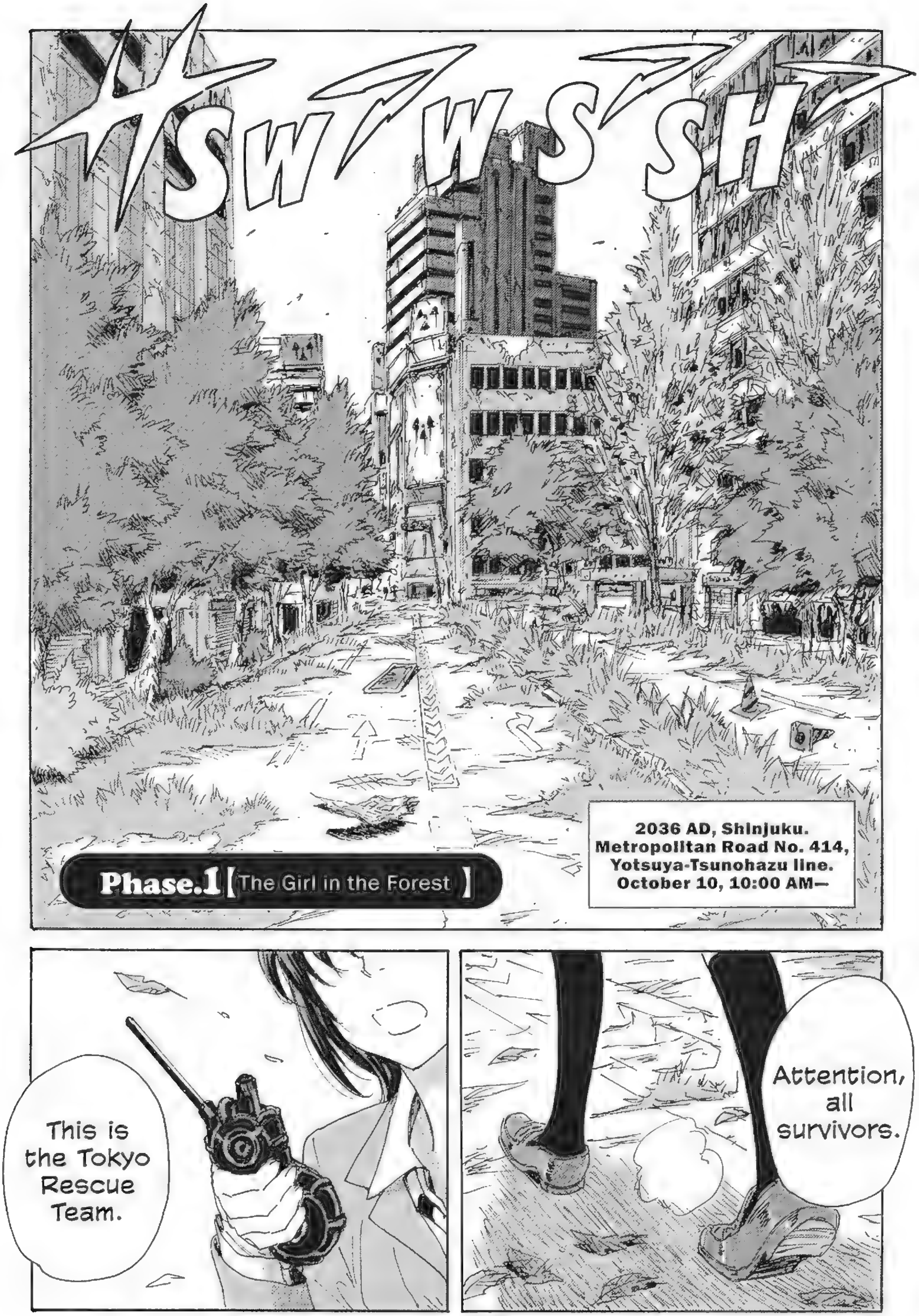

Riku and Sora are your children!!
Promise...
...you'll come and see them!

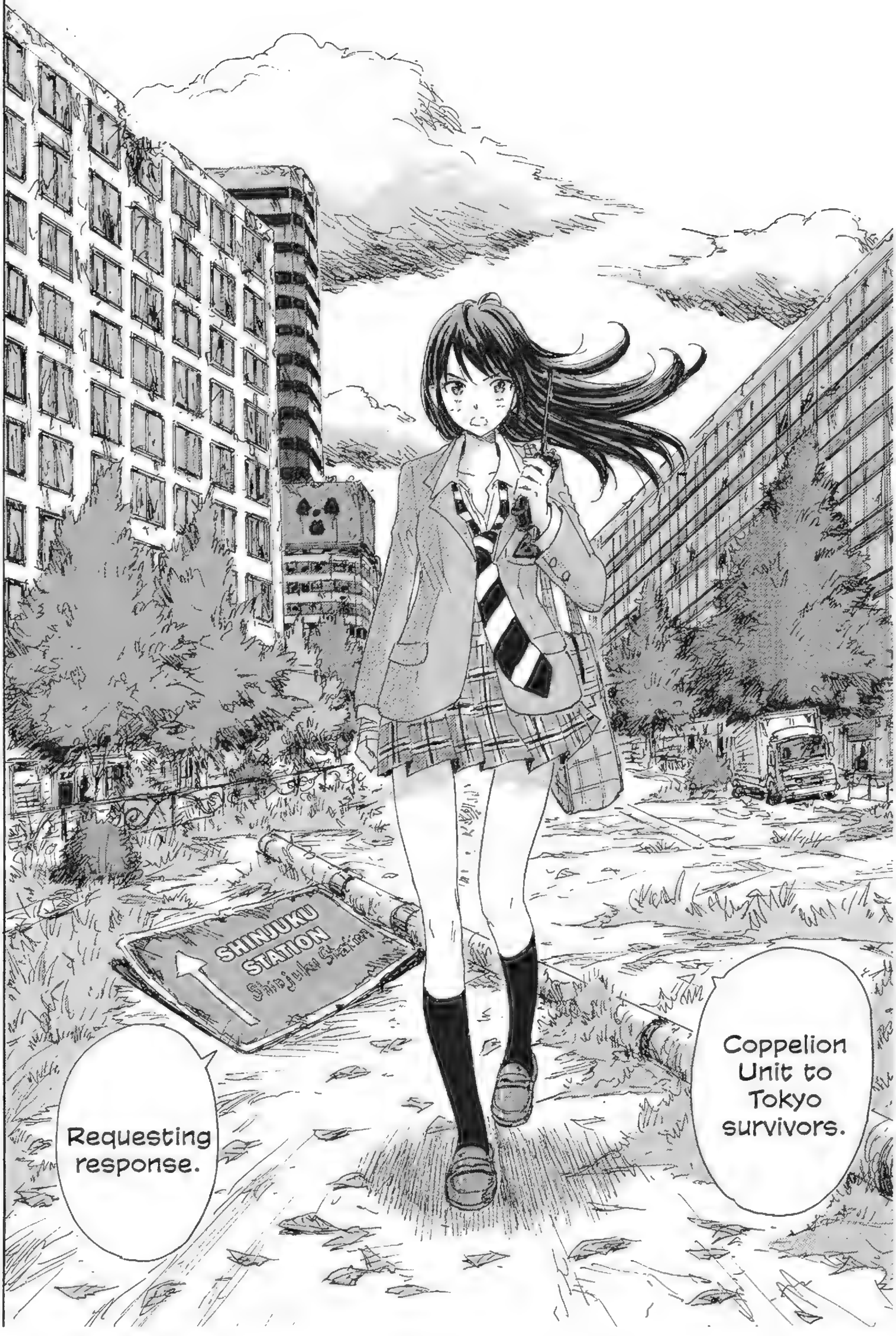

We'll be waiting...
We'll be waiting for you to come home! Always!
Geez...
TMP
It's just us three again, huh...
Let's see, we need to go...
Yeah, there're still survivors in Shibuya.
Why can't this field trip be, like, *over* already?!
STATION

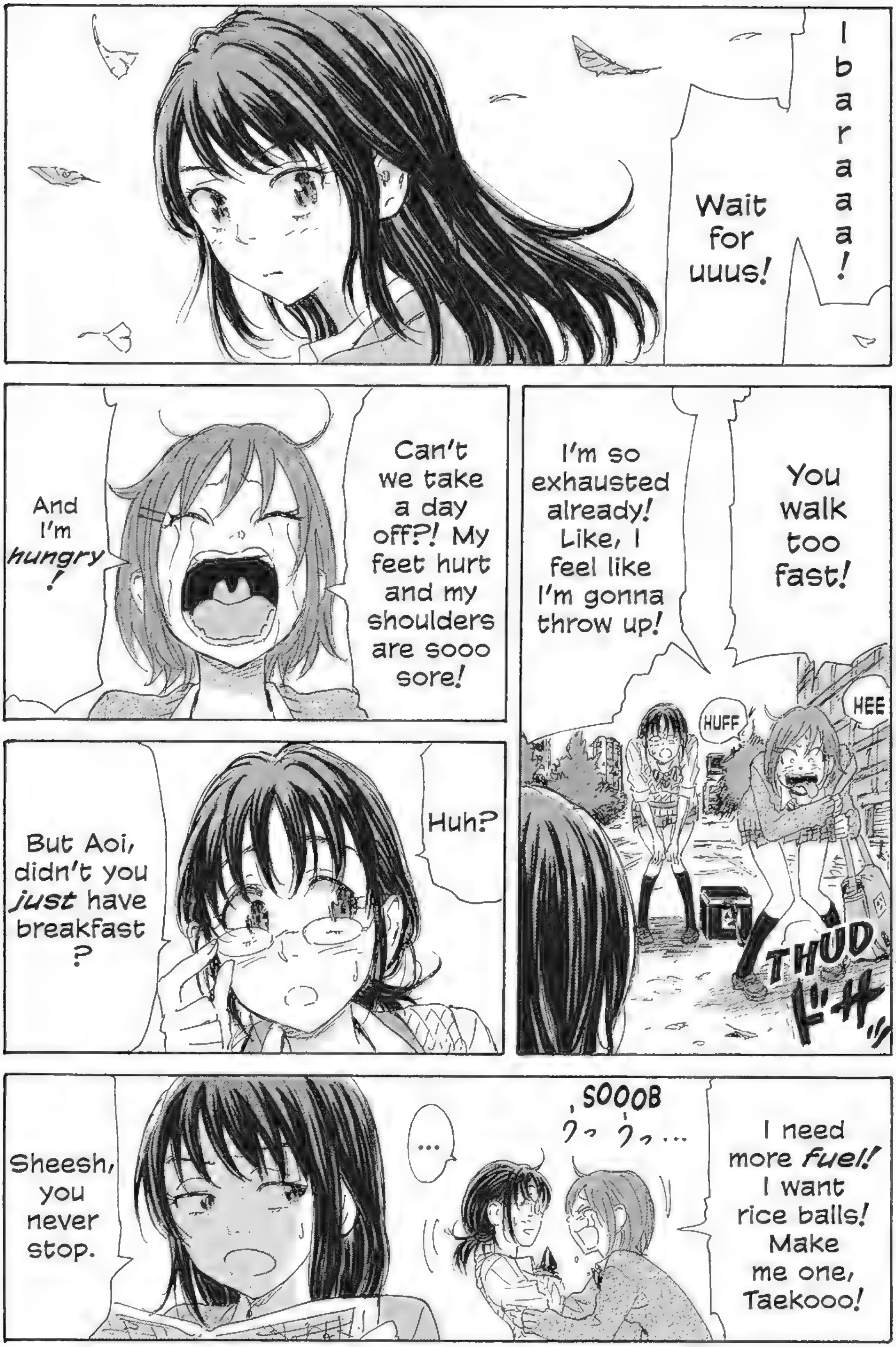

BDMP . . .
What's up, Aoi?
N-Nothing ...
I just felt this chill go down my spine, like I'm being watched...
GLANCE
GLANCE
You're imagining things. C'mon, let's get a move on!
It's just us three, right? *Right, Ibara?!*
COPPELION
PART 2: END

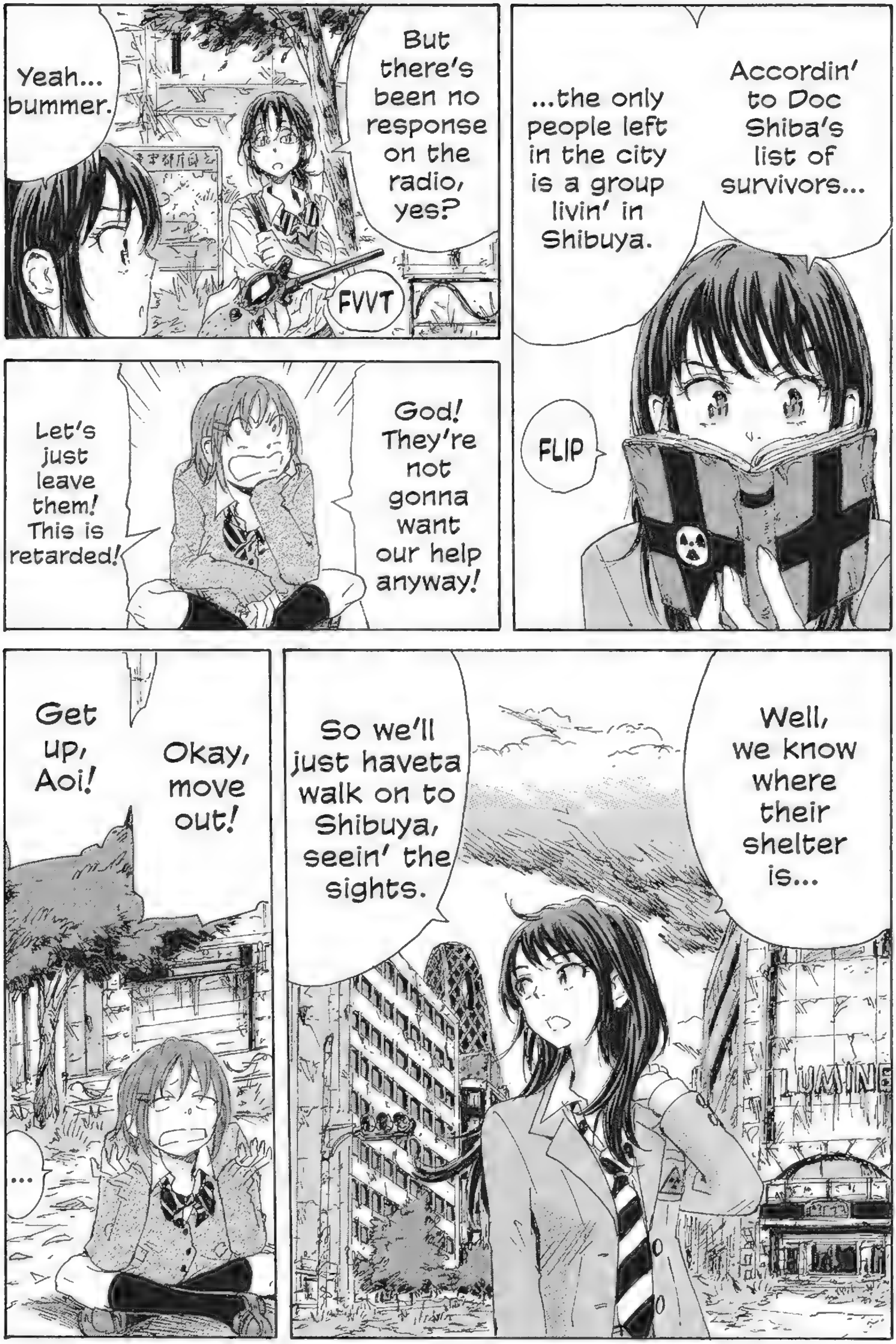
COPPELION
PART 3

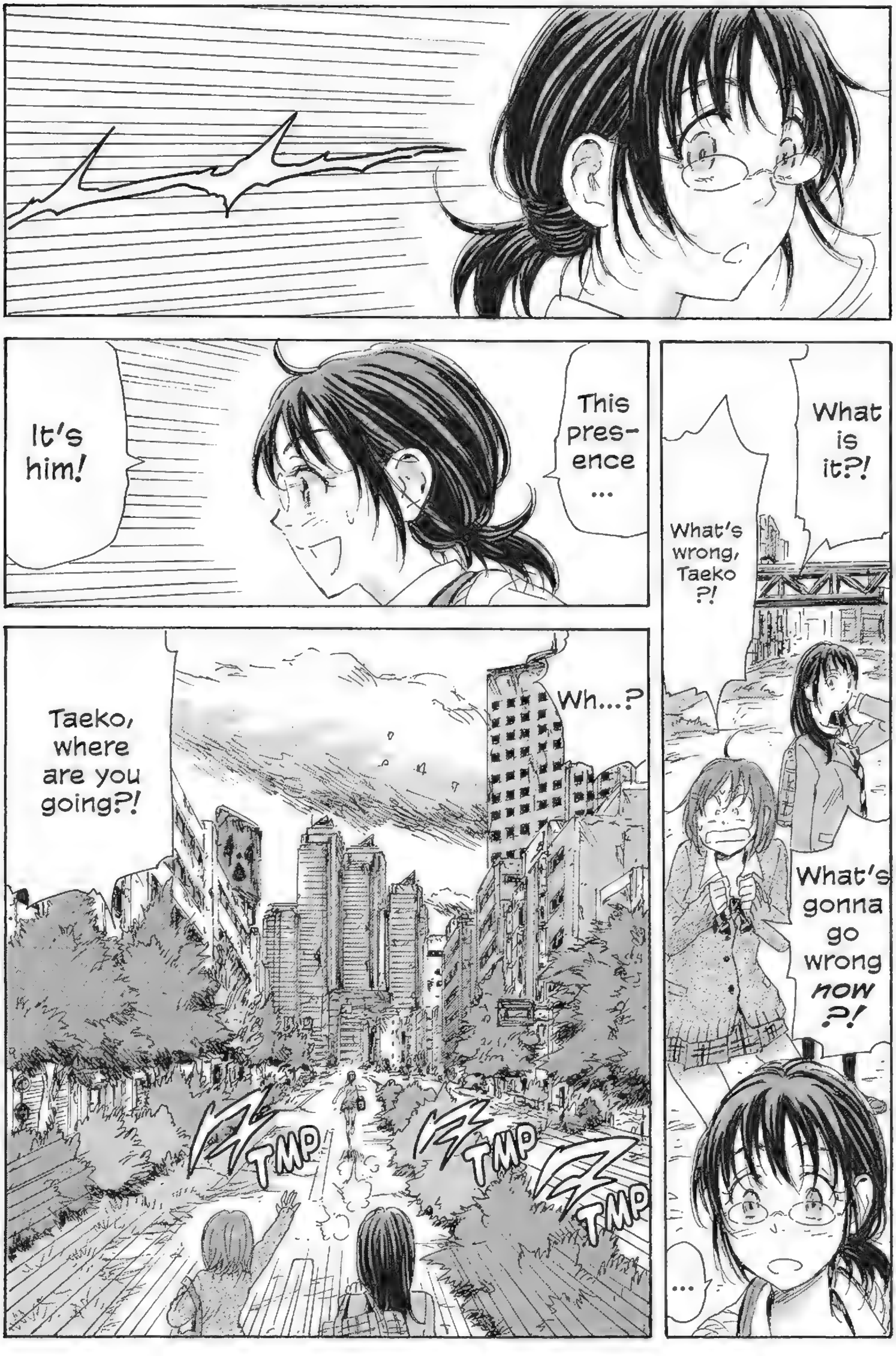
Phase.1 【The Girl in the Forest】

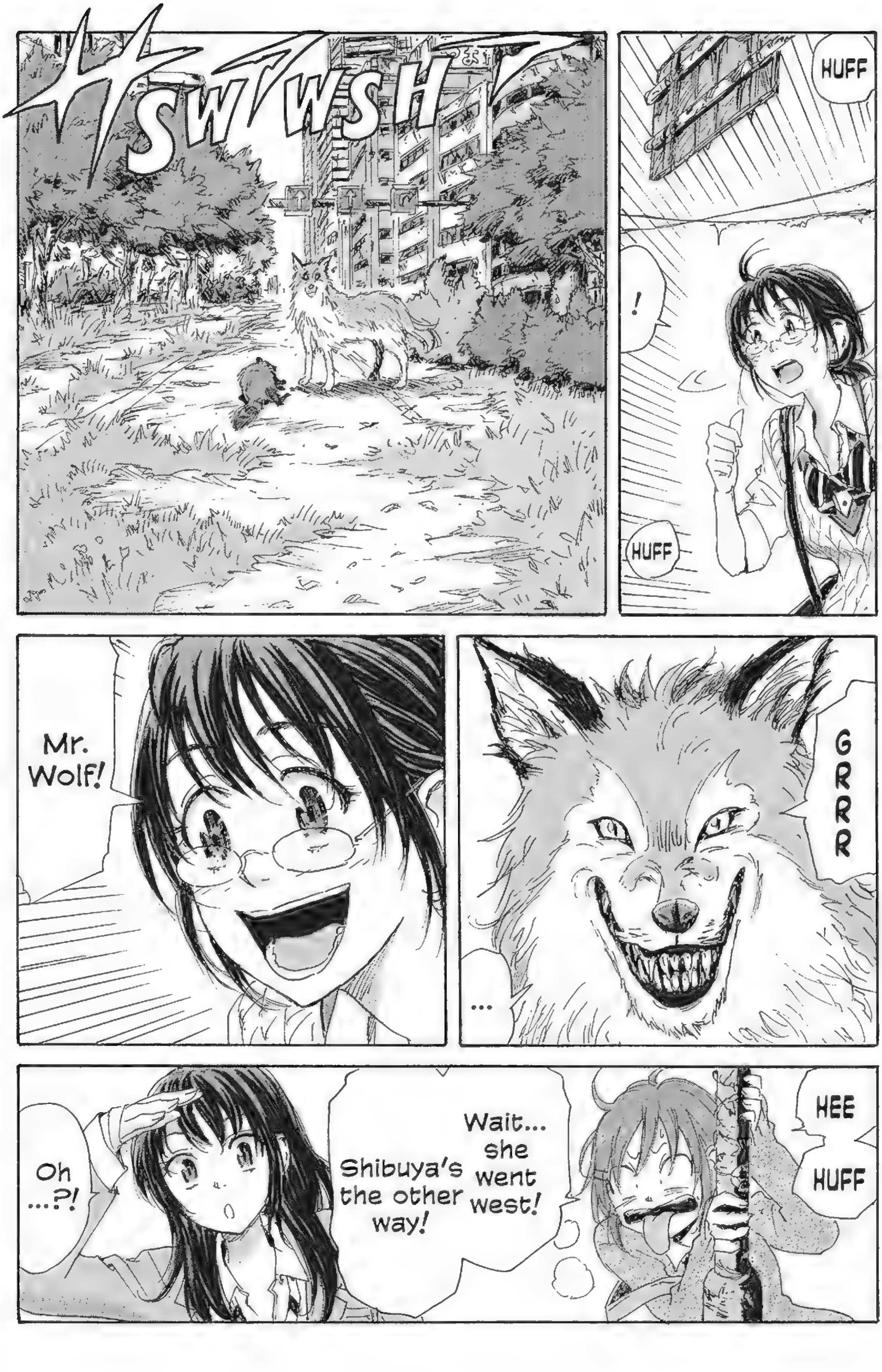

SWISH
2036 AD, Shinjuku.
Metropolitan Road No. 414,
Yotsuya-Tsunohazu line.
October 10, 10:00 AM—
Attention, all survivors.
This is the Tokyo Rescue Team.

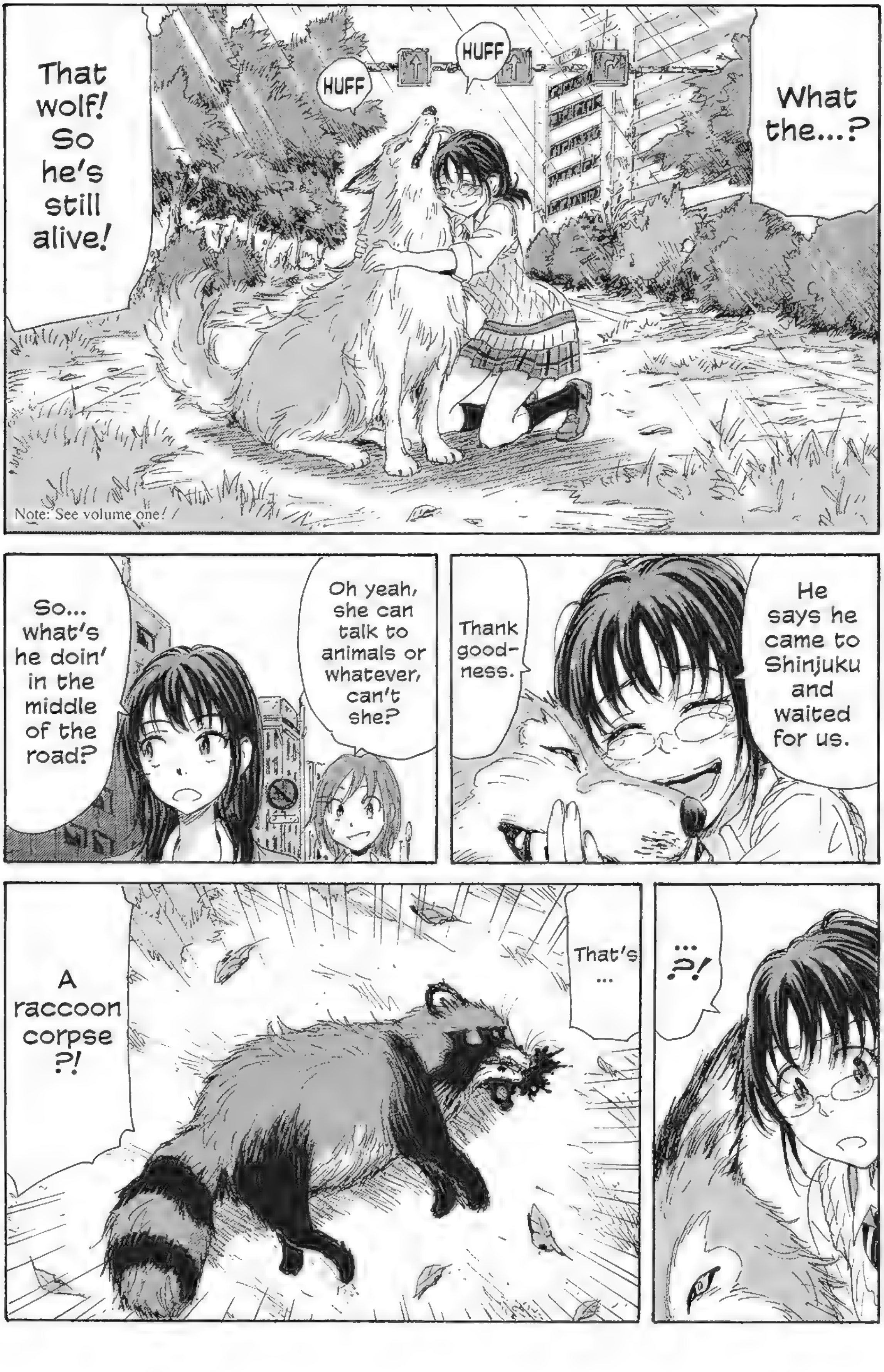

SHINJUKU STATION
Shinjuku Station
Coppelion Unit to Tokyo survivors.
Requesting response.


Ibaraaaa!
Wait for uuus!
You walk too fast!
I'm so exhausted already! Like, I feel like I'm gonna throw up!
HEE
HUFF
THUD
ドサッ
Can't we take a day off?! My feet hurt and my shoulders are sooo sore!
And I'm *hungry*!
Huh?
But Aoi, didn't you *just* have breakfast?
I need more *fuel!* I want rice balls! Make me one, Taekooo!
SOOOB
うっ うっ…
…
Sheesh, you never stop.

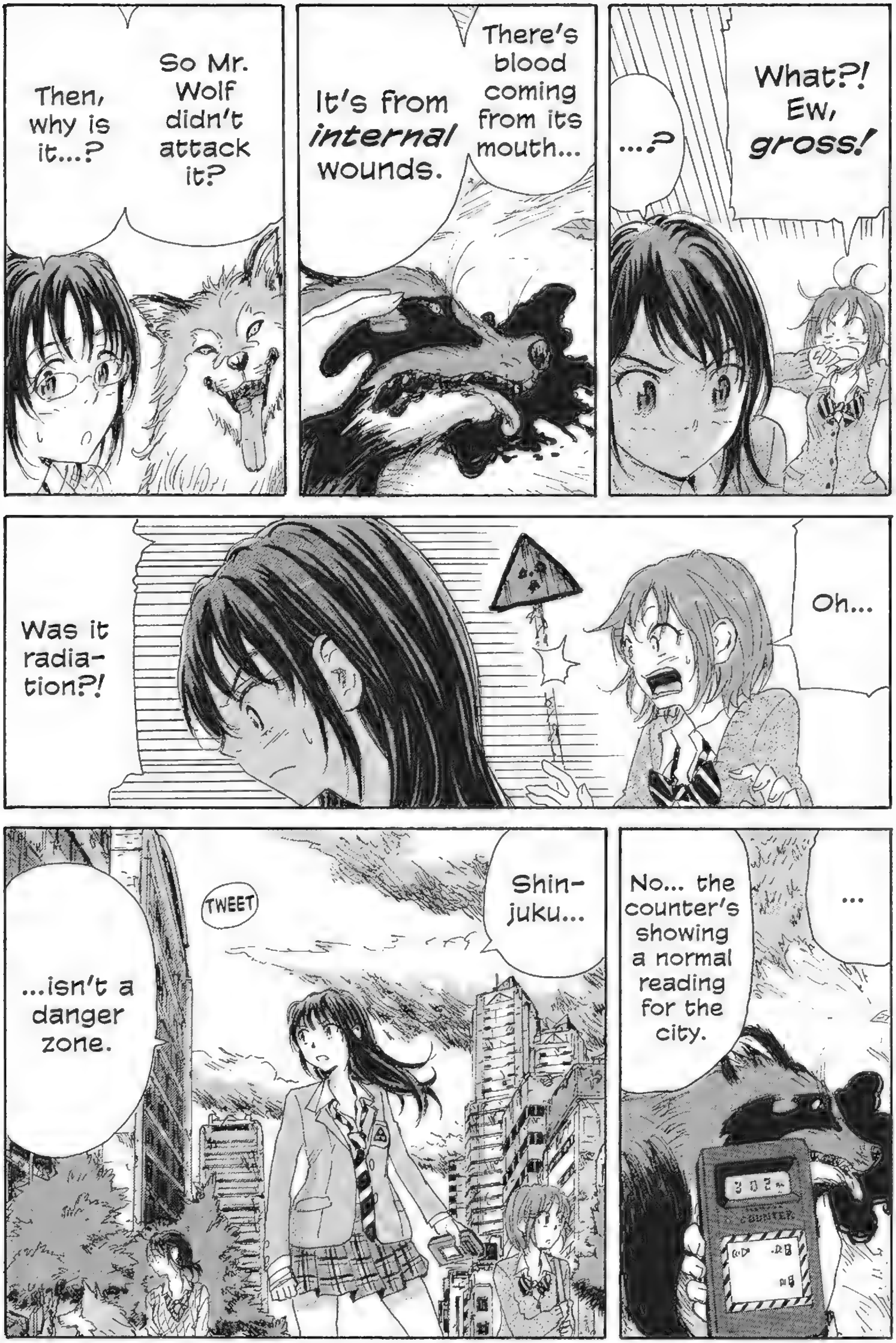

Accordin' to Doc Shiba's list of survivors...
...the only people left in the city is a group livin' in Shibuya.
FLIP
But there's been no response on the radio, yes?
Yeah... bummer.
FVVT
God! They're not gonna want our help anyway!
Let's just leave them! This is retarded!
Well, we know where their shelter is...
So we'll just haveta walk on to Shibuya, seein' the sights.
LUMINE
Okay, move out!
Get up, Aoi!
...

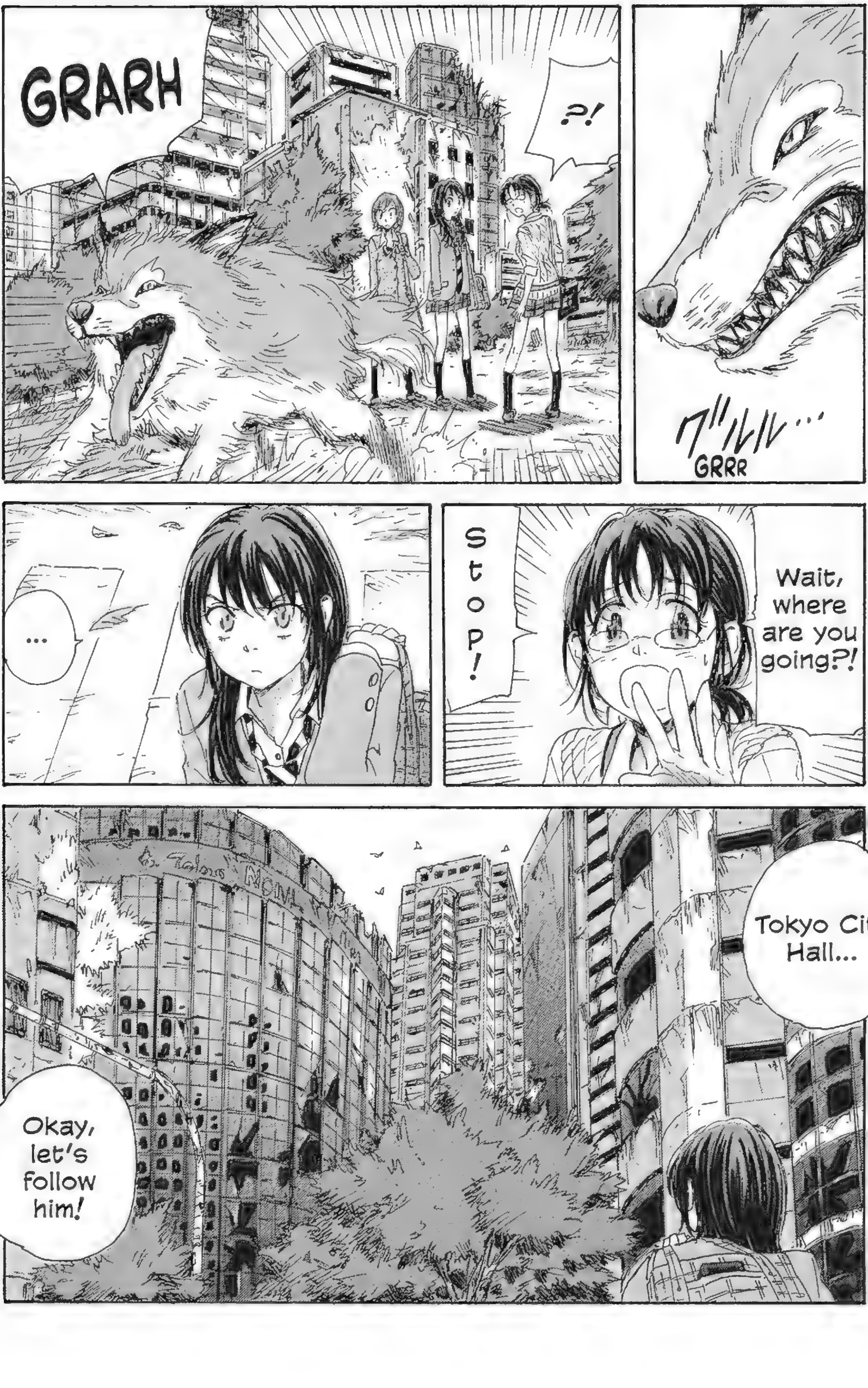

What is it?!
What's wrong, Taeko?!
What's gonna go wrong *now*?!
...
This presence...
It's him!
Wh...?
Taeko, where are you going?!
TMP
TMP
TMP

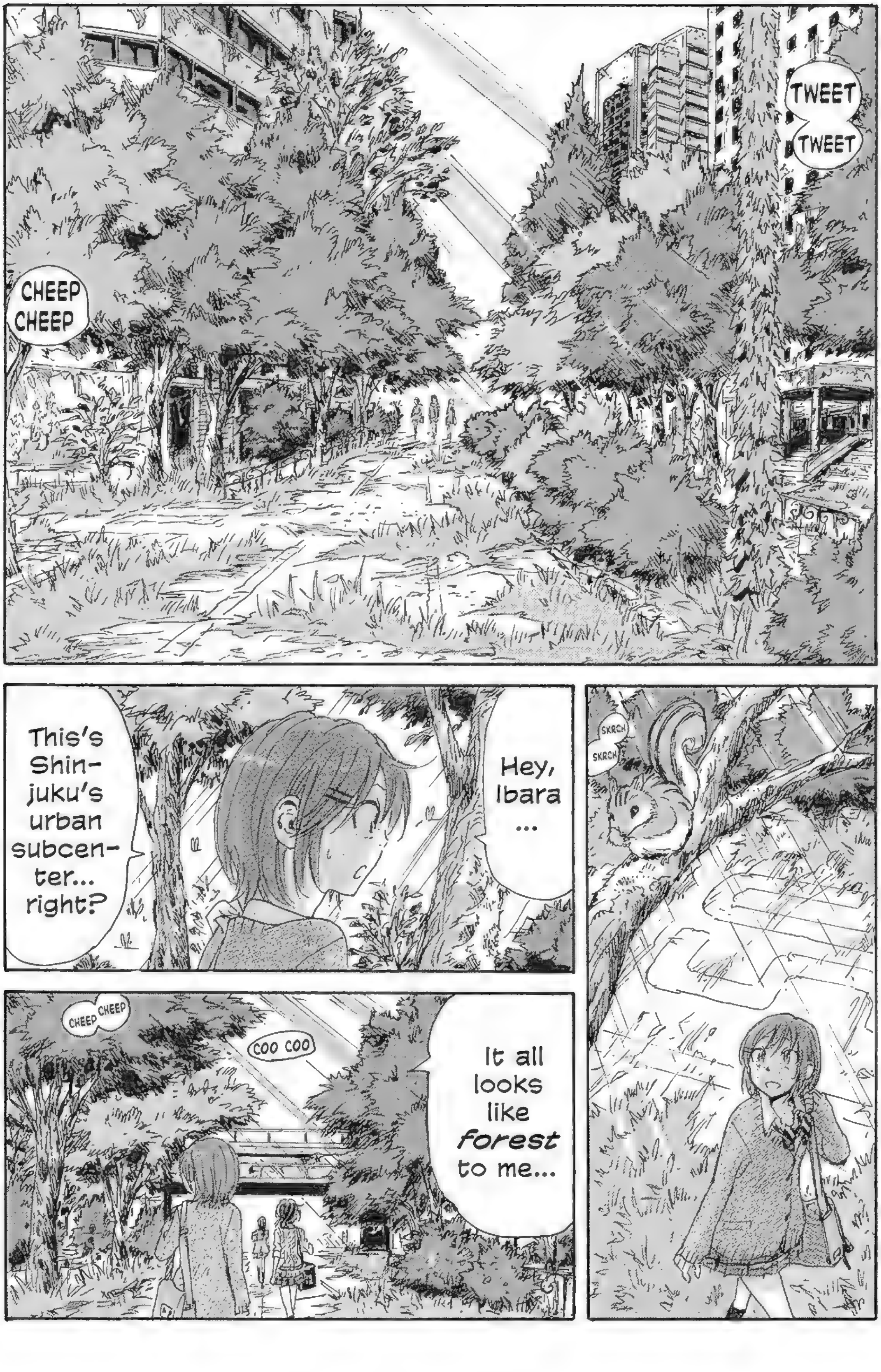

SWISH
HUFF
!
HUFF
Mr. Wolf!
GRRR
...
Oh ...?!
Shibuya's the other way!
Wait... she went west!
HEE
HUFF

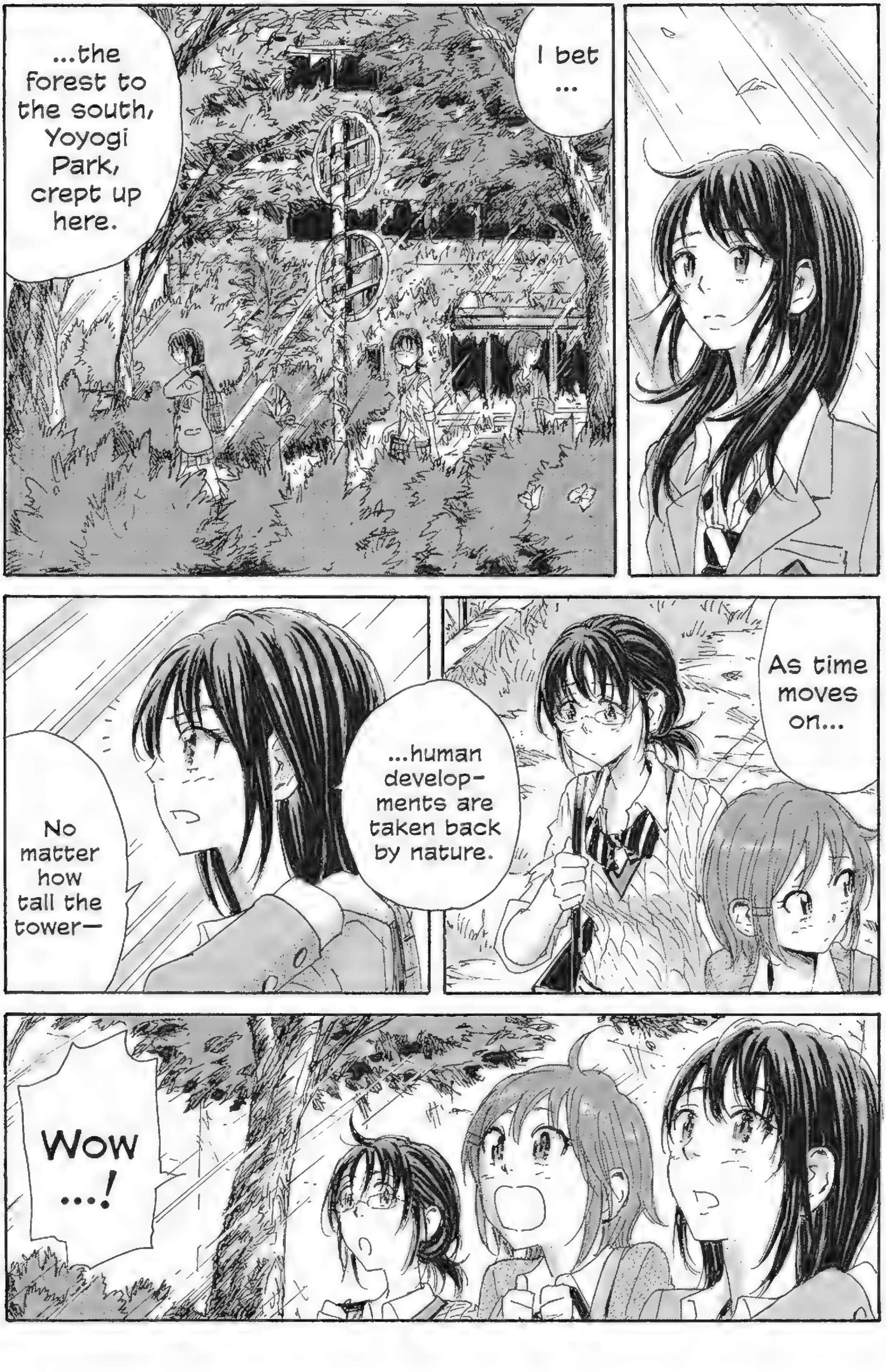

What the...?
HUFF
HUFF
That wolf! So he's still alive!
He says he came to Shinjuku and waited for us.
Thank goodness.
Oh yeah, she can talk to animals or whatever, can't she?
So... what's he doin' in the middle of the road?
...?!
That's...
A raccoon corpse?!

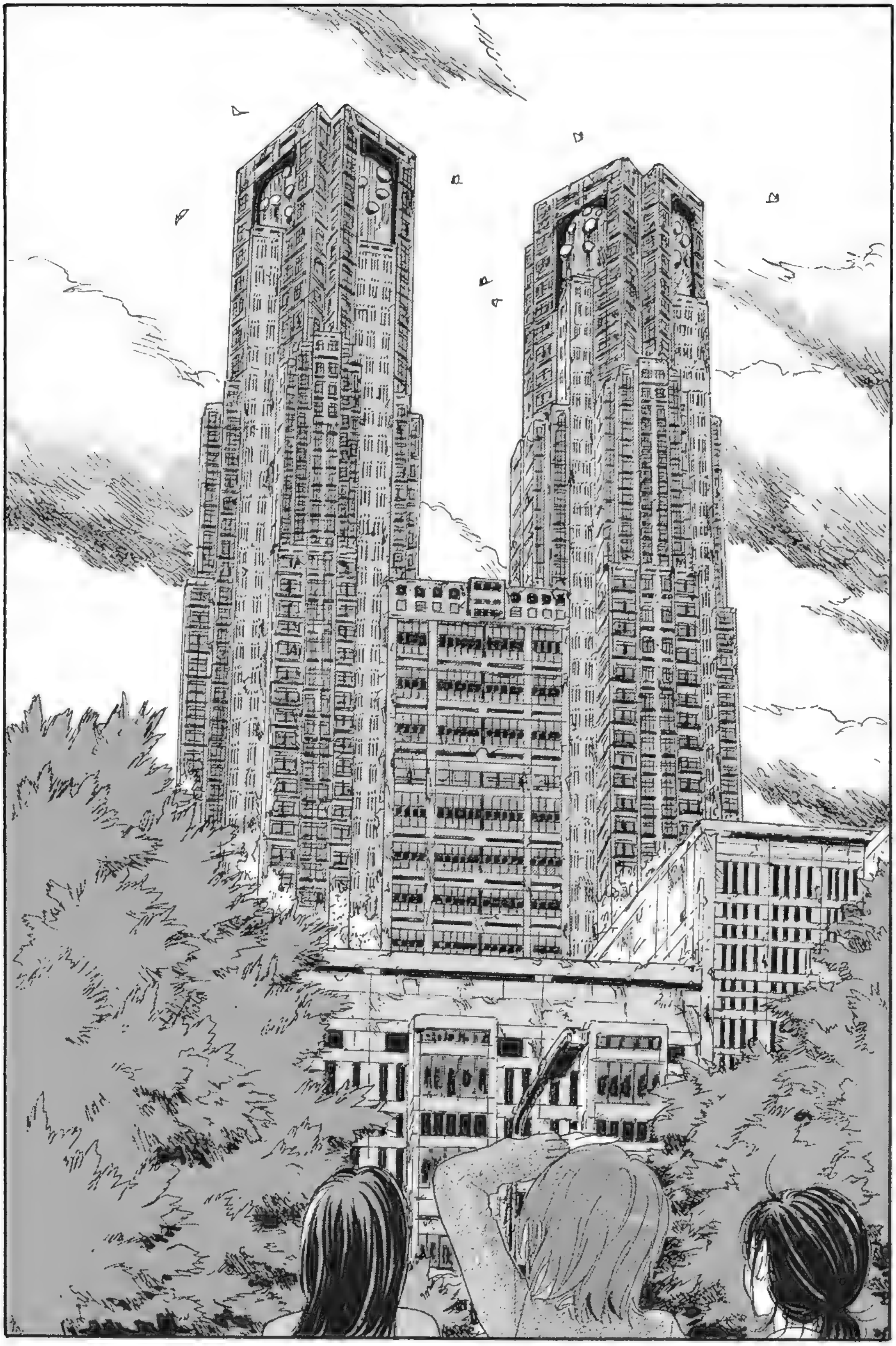
Note: See volume one!

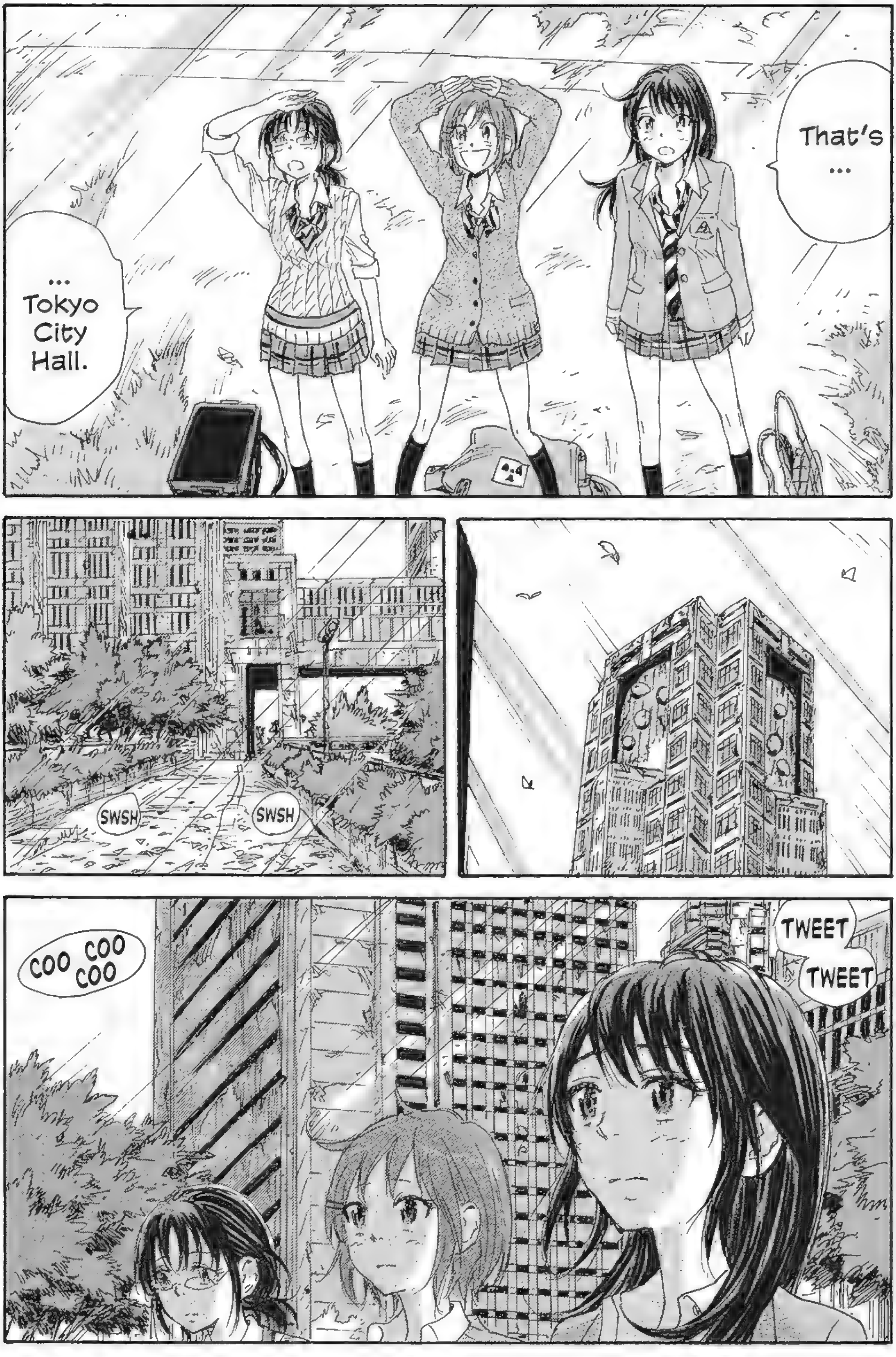

What?! Ew, *gross!*
...?
There's blood coming from its mouth...
It's from *internal* wounds.
So Mr. Wolf didn't attack it?
Then, why is it...?
Oh...
Was it radiation?!
...
No... the counter's showing a normal reading for the city.
COUNTER
Shinjuku...
TWEET
...isn't a danger zone.

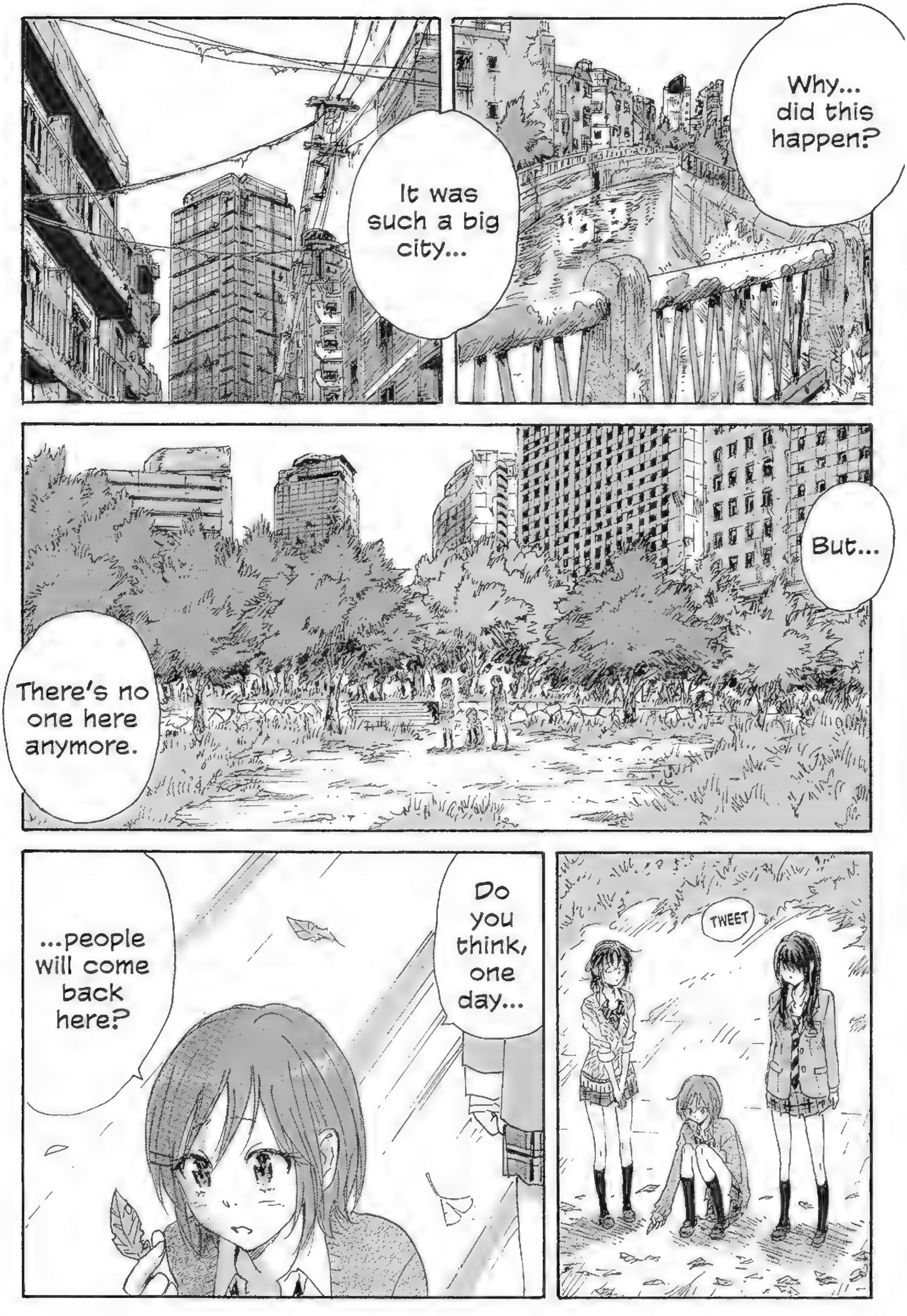

グルルル…
GRRR
?!
GRARH
Stop!
Wait, where are you going?!
...
Tokyo City Hall...
Okay, let's follow him!

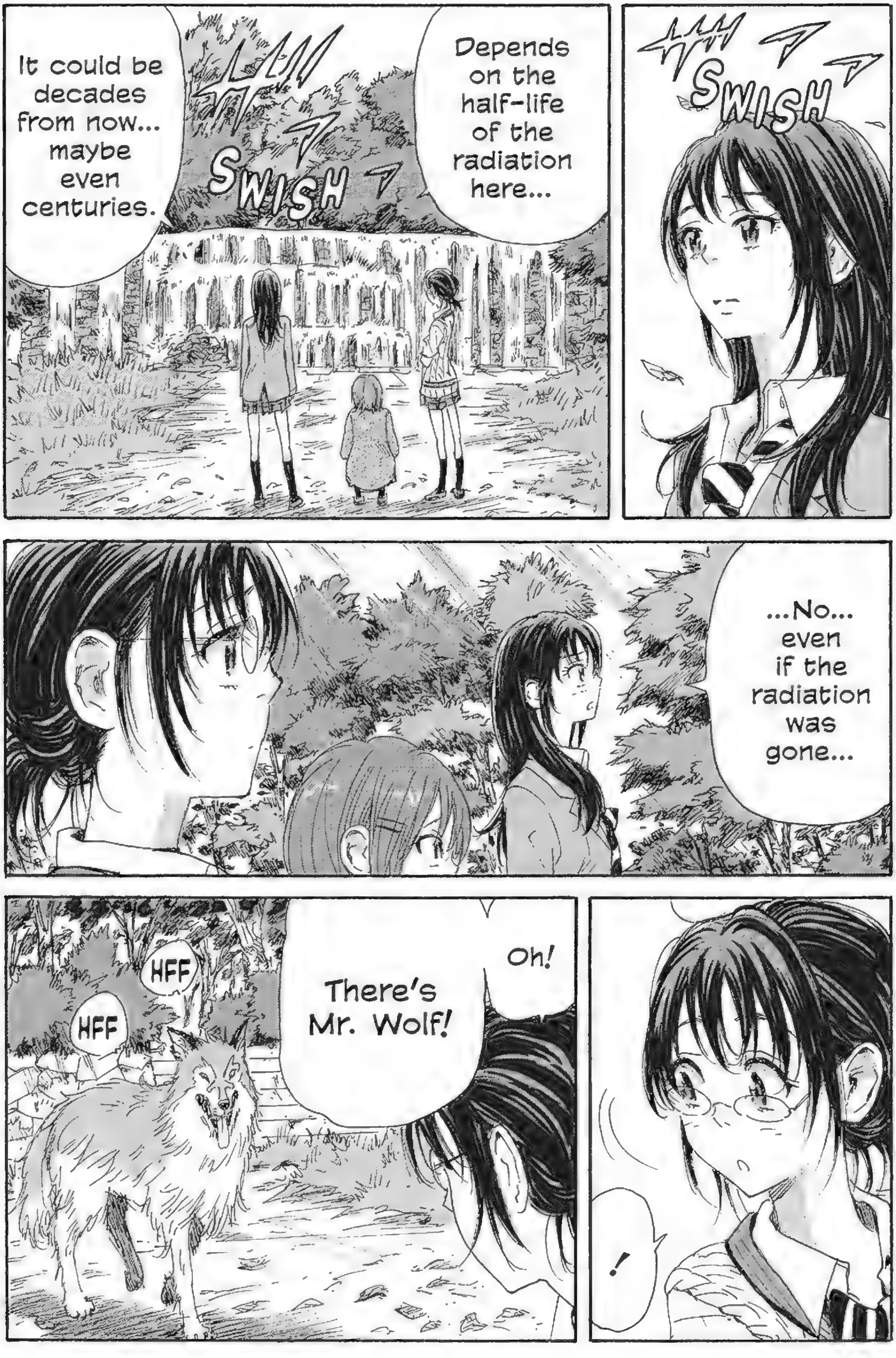

TWEET
TWEET
CHEEP CHEEP
SKRCH
SKRCH
Hey, Ibara...
This's Shinjuku's urban subcenter... right?
CHEEP CHEEP
COO COO
It all looks like *forest* to me...

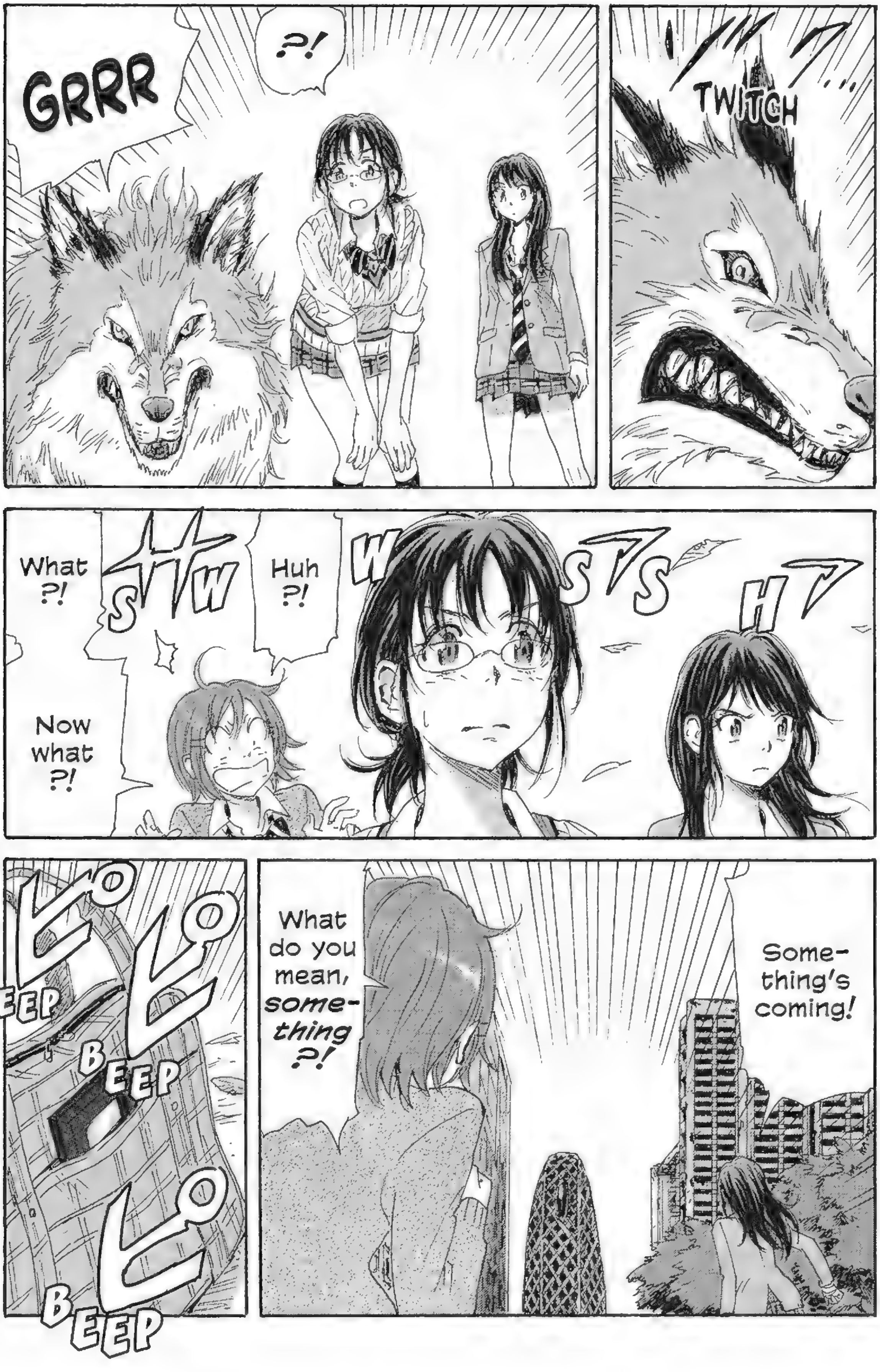

I bet ...
...the forest to the south, Yoyogi Park, crept up here.
As time moves on...
...human developments are taken back by nature.
No matter how tall the tower—
Wow ...!

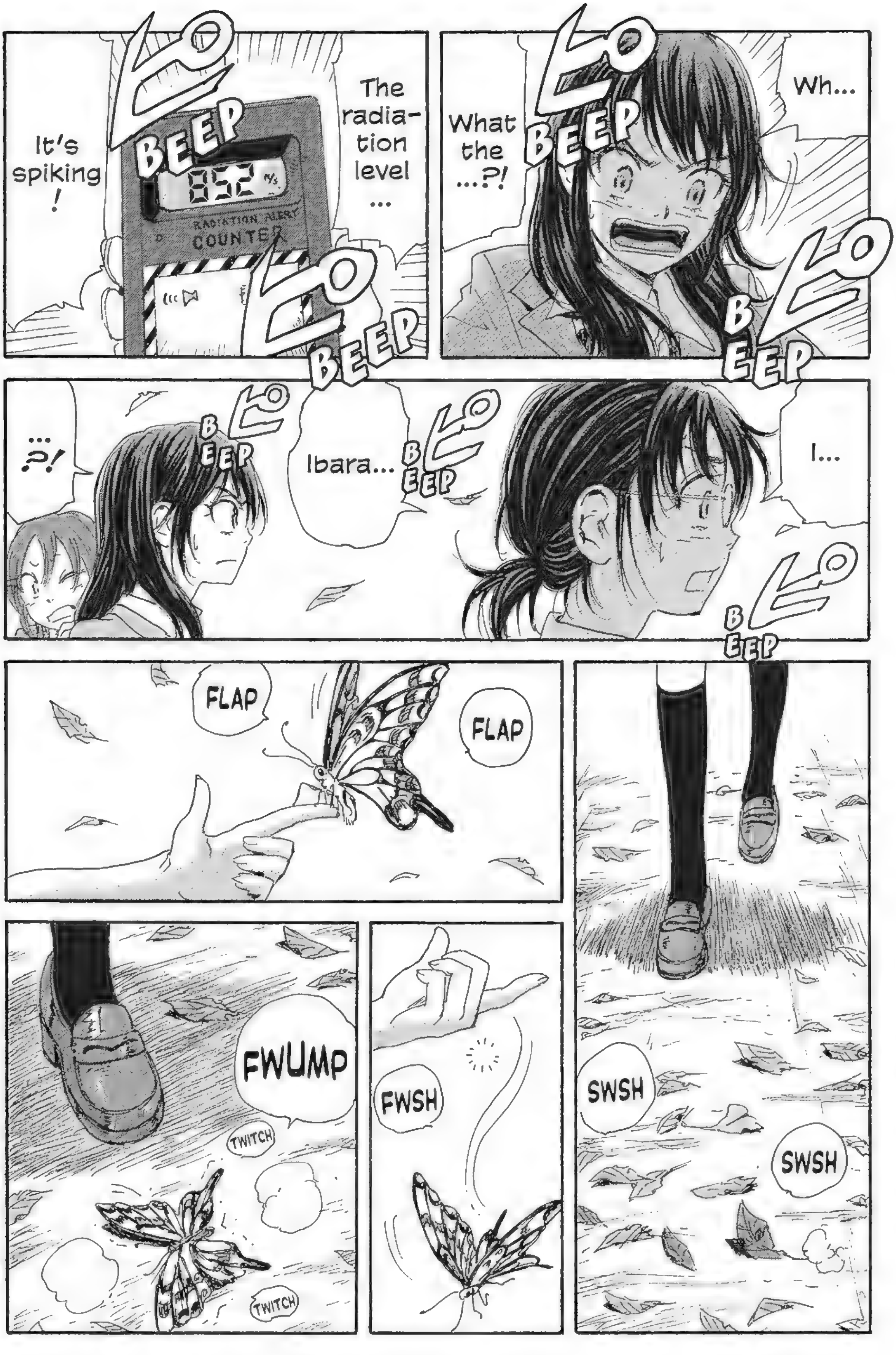


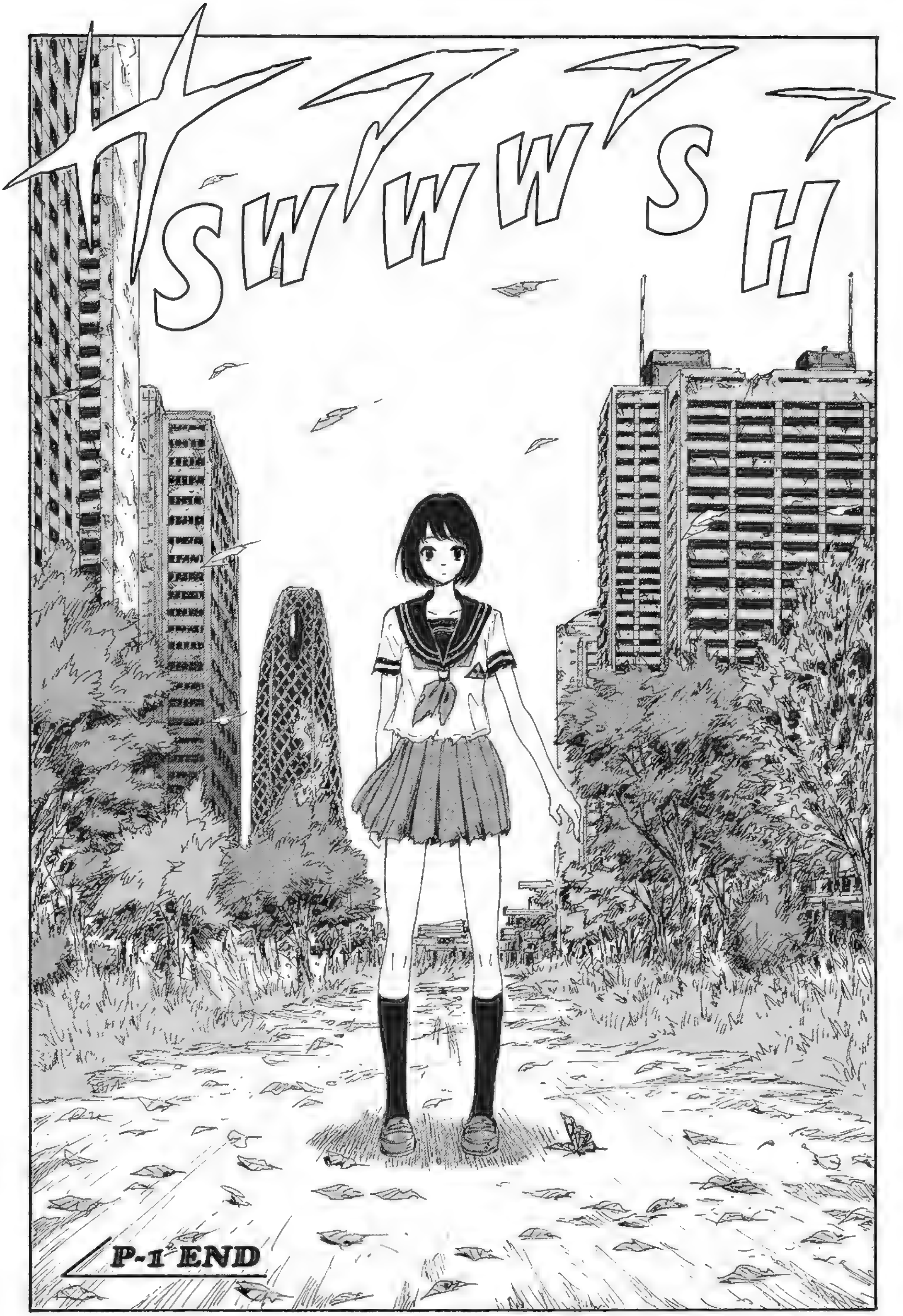

That's ...
... Tokyo City Hall.
SWSH
SWSH
TWEET
TWEET
COO COO COO

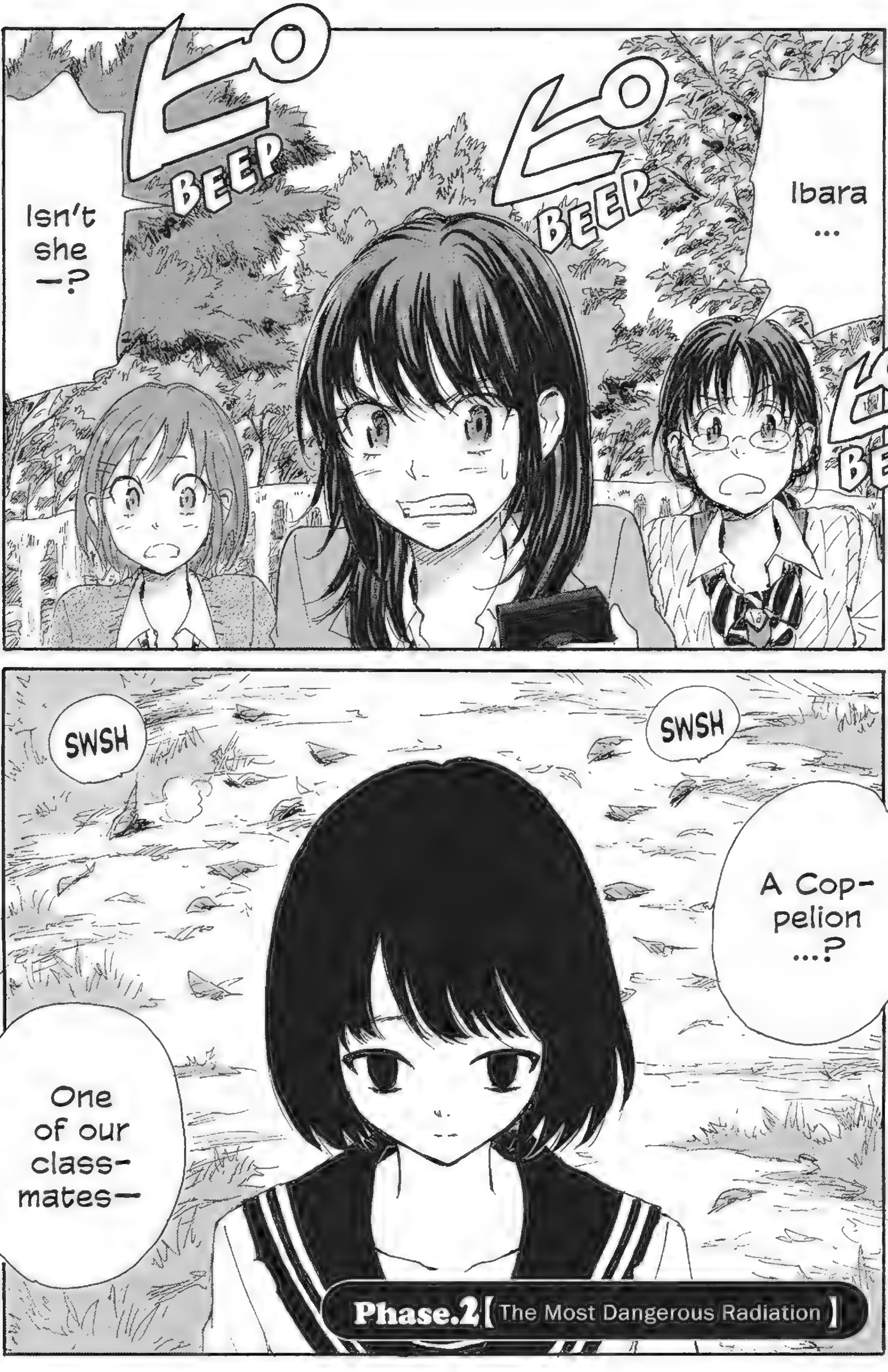

Why... did this happen?
It was such a big city...
But...
There's no one here anymore.
TWEET
Do you think, one day...
...people will come back here?


SWISH
Depends on the half-life of the radiation here...
SWISH
It could be decades from now... maybe even centuries.
...No... even if the radiation was gone...
!
Oh!
There's Mr. Wolf!
HFF
HFF

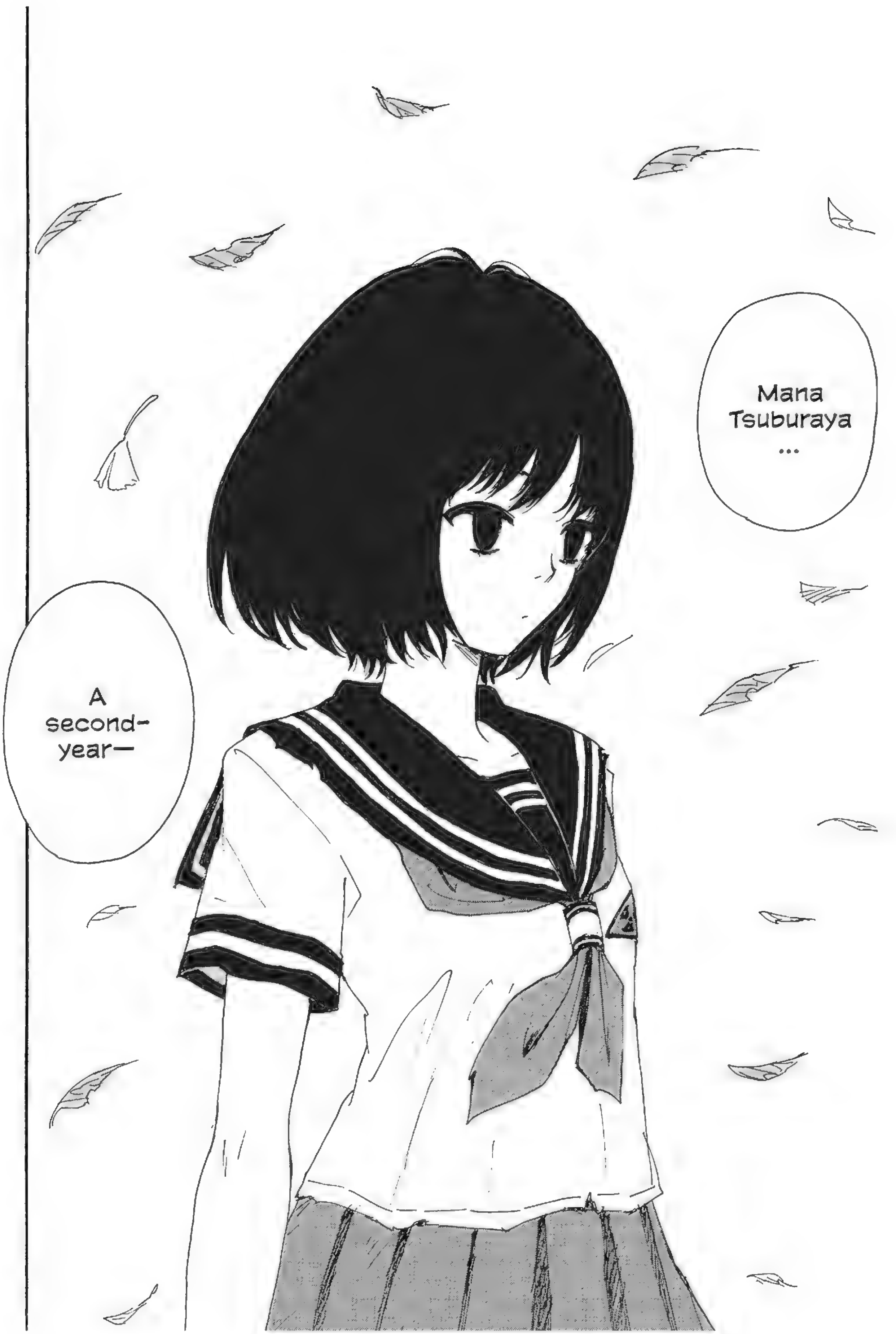

TWITCH
GRRR
?!
SWSSH
Huh ?!
SWW
What ?!
Now what ?!
Some-thing's coming!
What do you mean, *some-thing* ?!
ピピピ
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

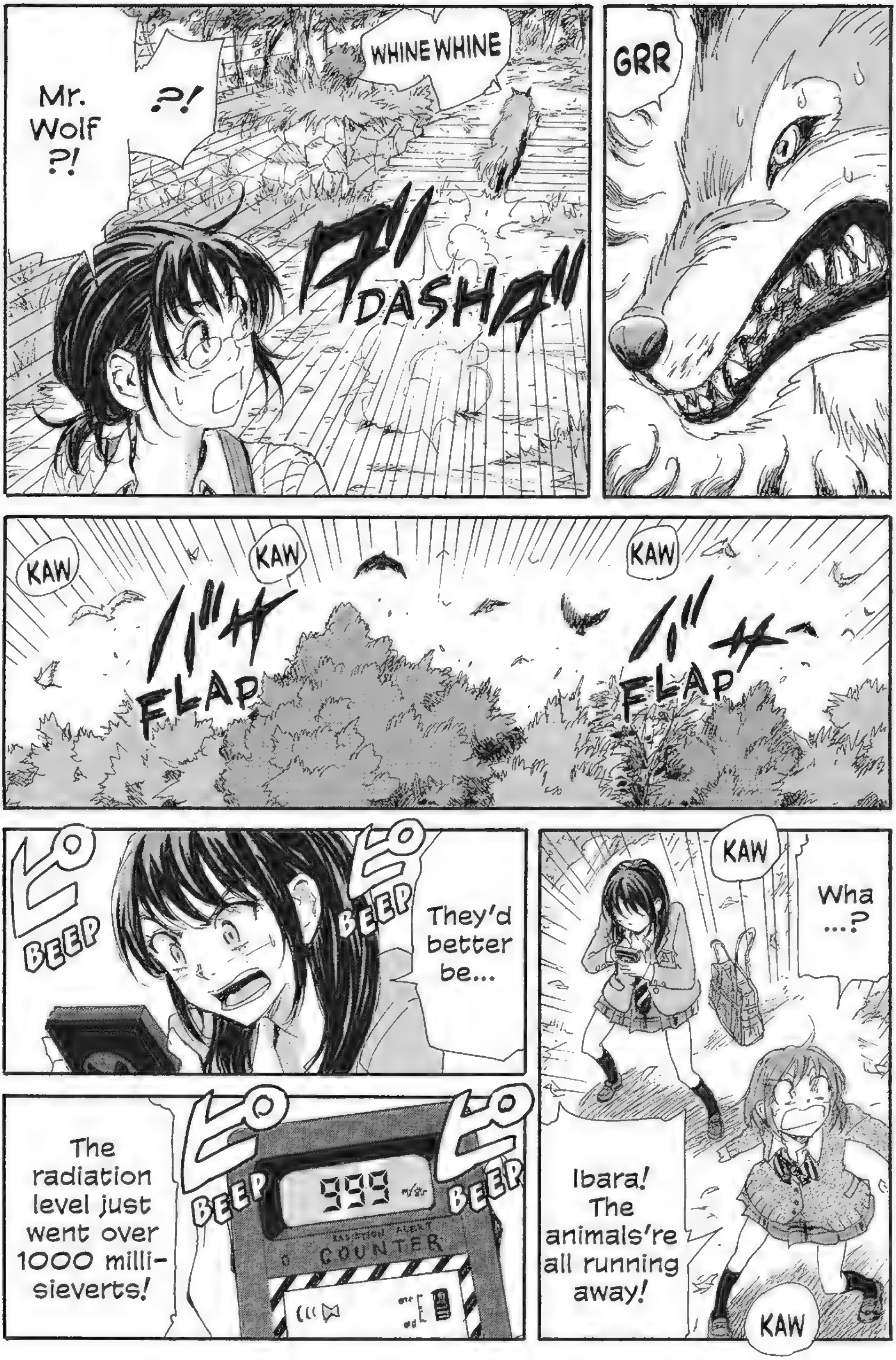
Wh...
What the ...?!
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
The radiation level ...
It's spiking!
ピ
BEEP
852
RADIATION ALERT
COUNTER
ピ
BEEP
I...
ピ
BEEP
Ibara...
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
...?!
SWSH
SWSH
FLAP
FLAP
FWSH
FWUMP
TWITCH
TWITCH

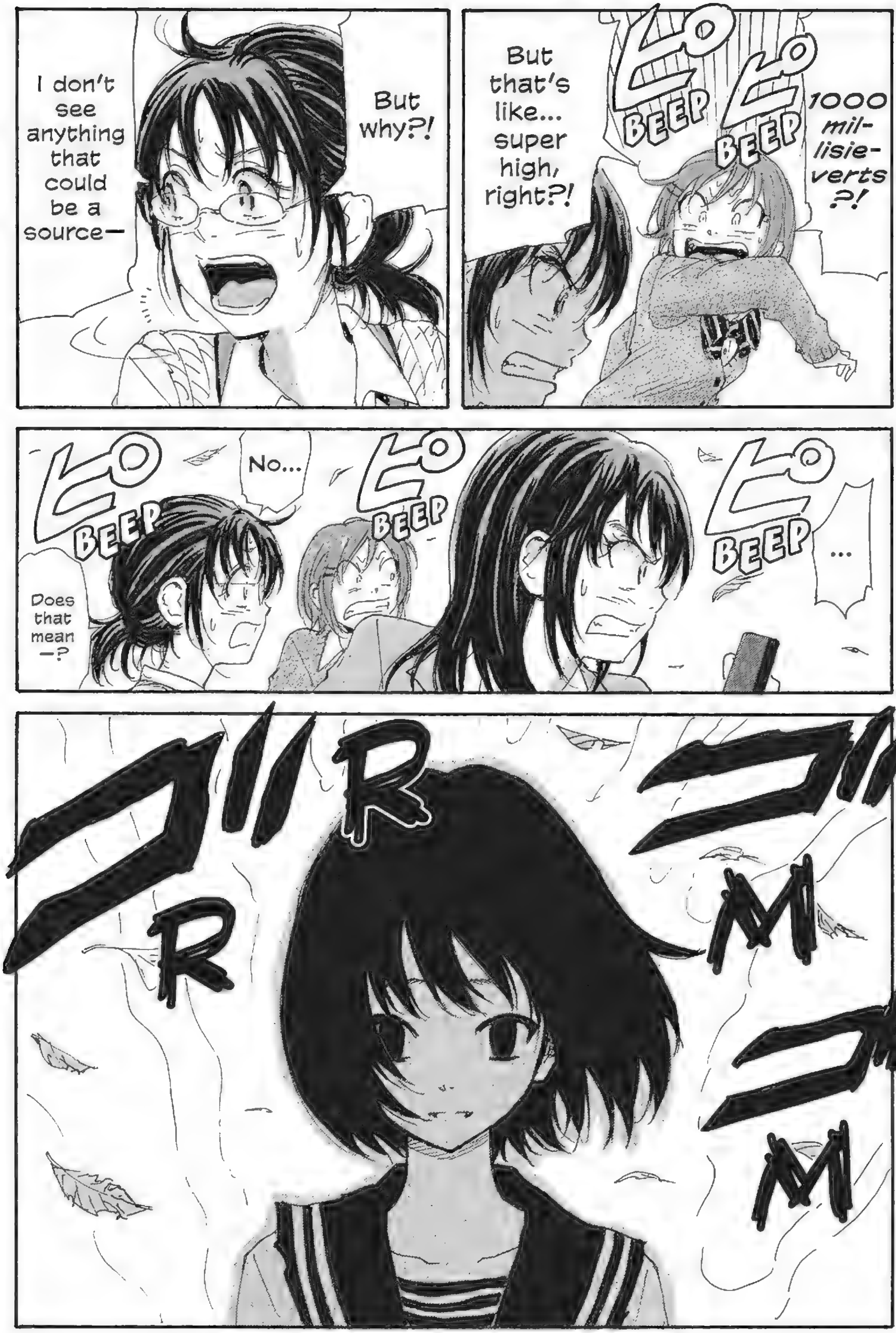

SWWWSH
P-1 END

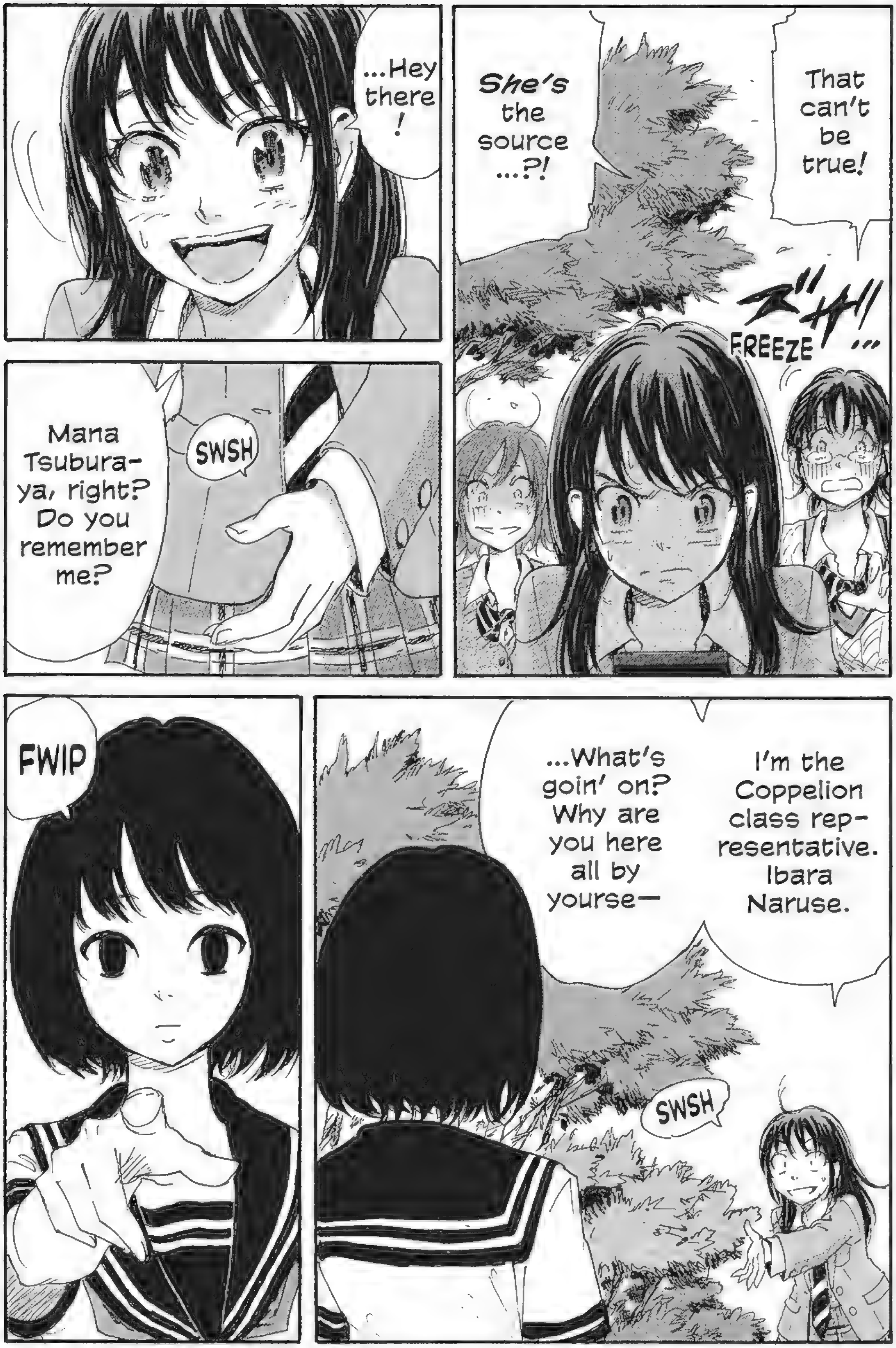

ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
Ibara ...
ピ
BEEP
Isn't she —?
SWSH
SWSH
A Coppelion ...?
One of our classmates—

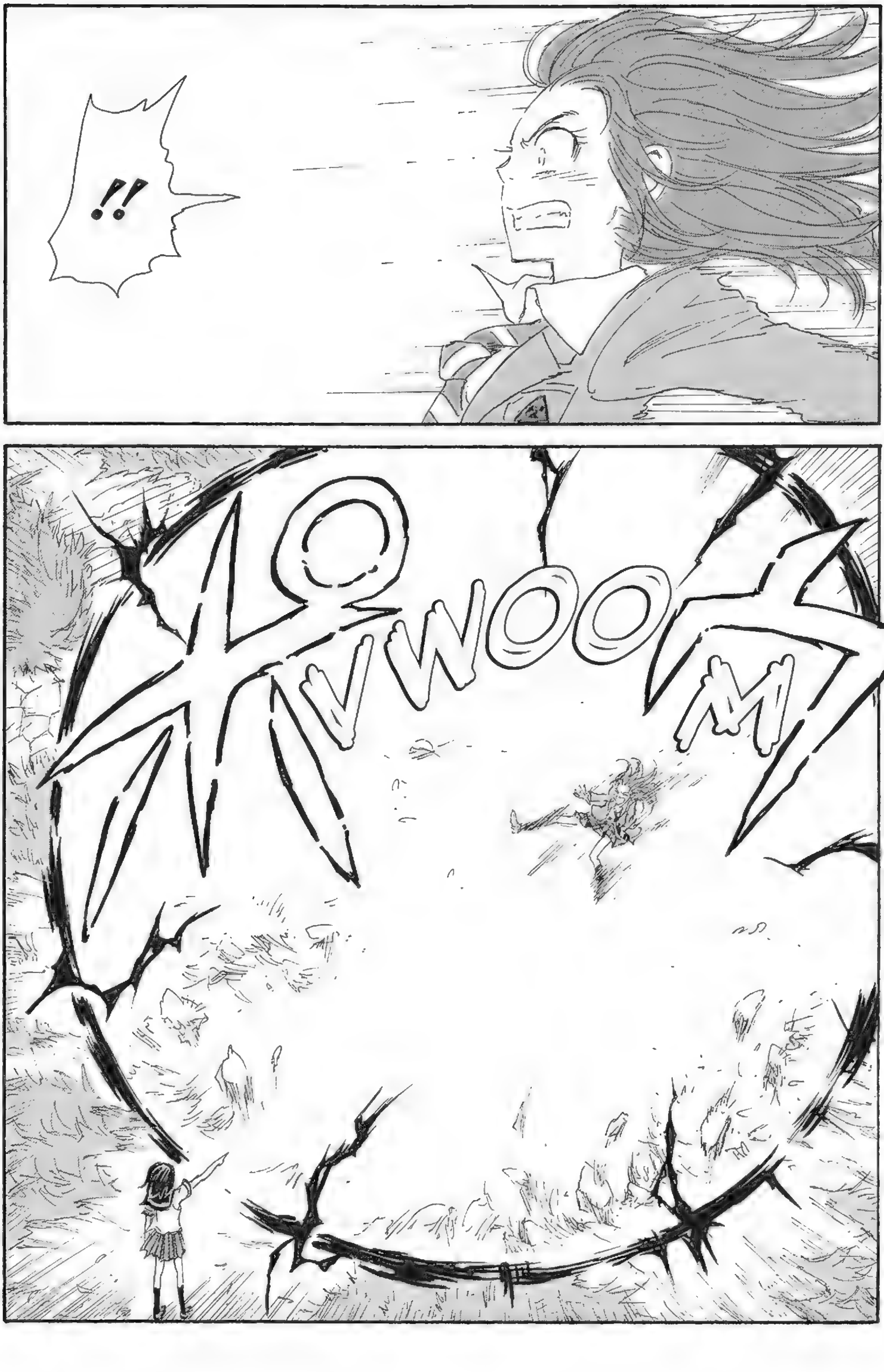
Phase.2 [The Most Dangerous Radiation]

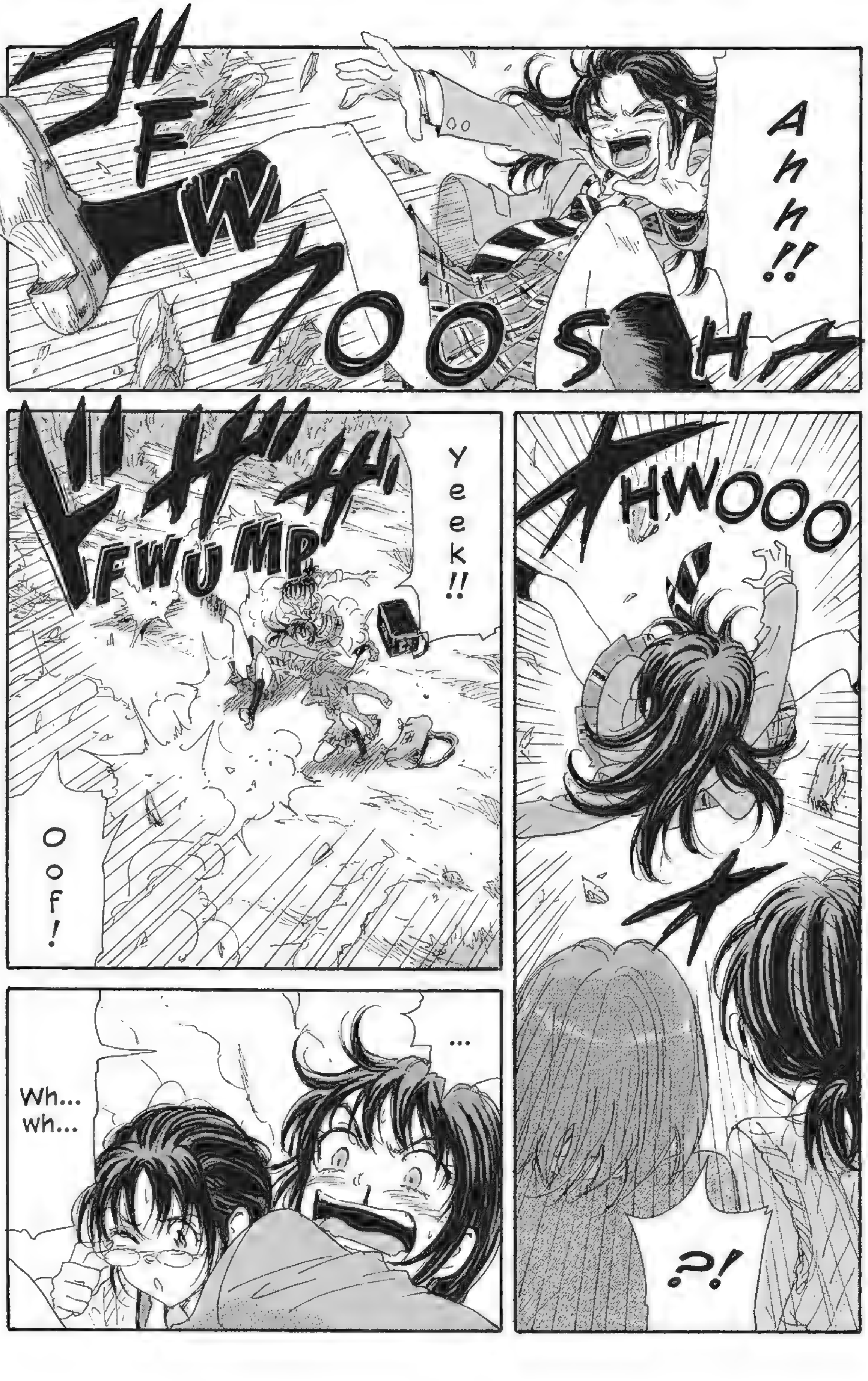

Mana Tsuburaya ...
A second-year—

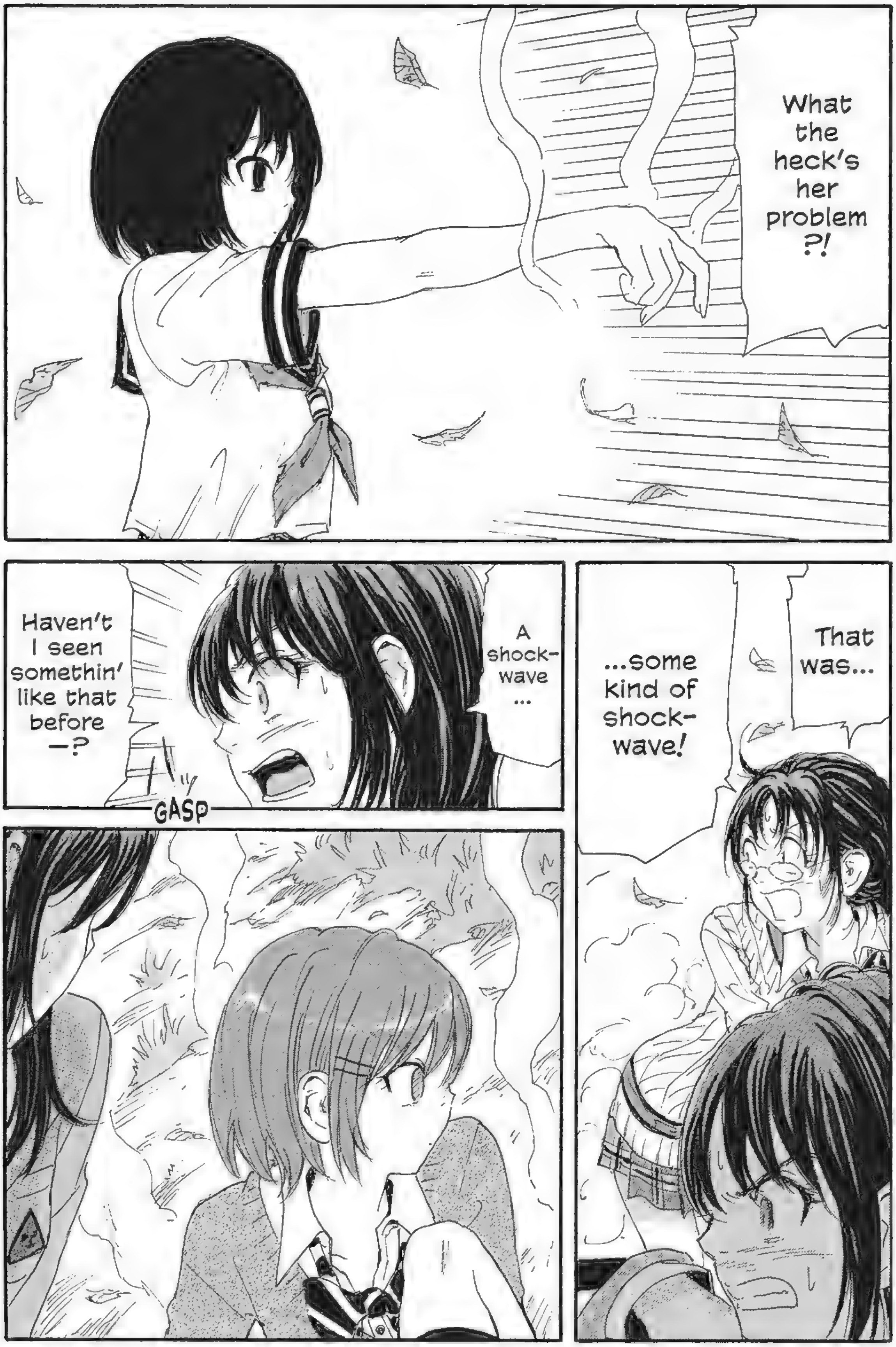

GRR
WHINE WHINE
?!
Mr. Wolf ?!
ダッ DASHA
KAW
KAW
バサッ FLAP
KAW
バサー FLAP
KAW
Wha ...?
Ibara! The animals're all running away!
KAW
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
They'd better be...
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
999
COUNTER
The radiation level just went over 1000 millisieverts!

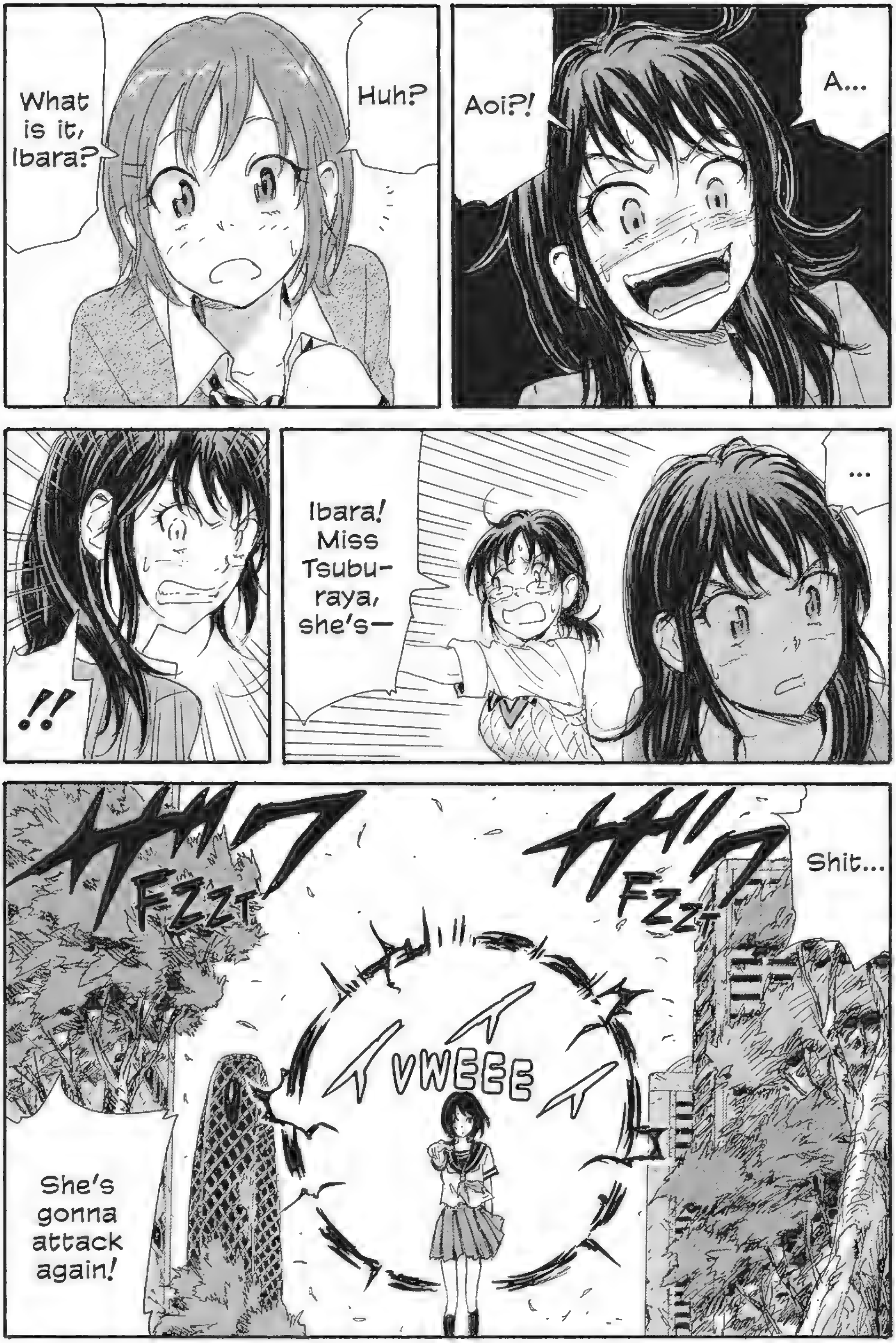

1000 millisieverts?!
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
But that's like... super high, right?!
But why?!
I don't see anything that could be a source—
...
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
No...
ピ BEEP
Does that mean—?
ゴゴ RRMM
ゴゴ RRMM

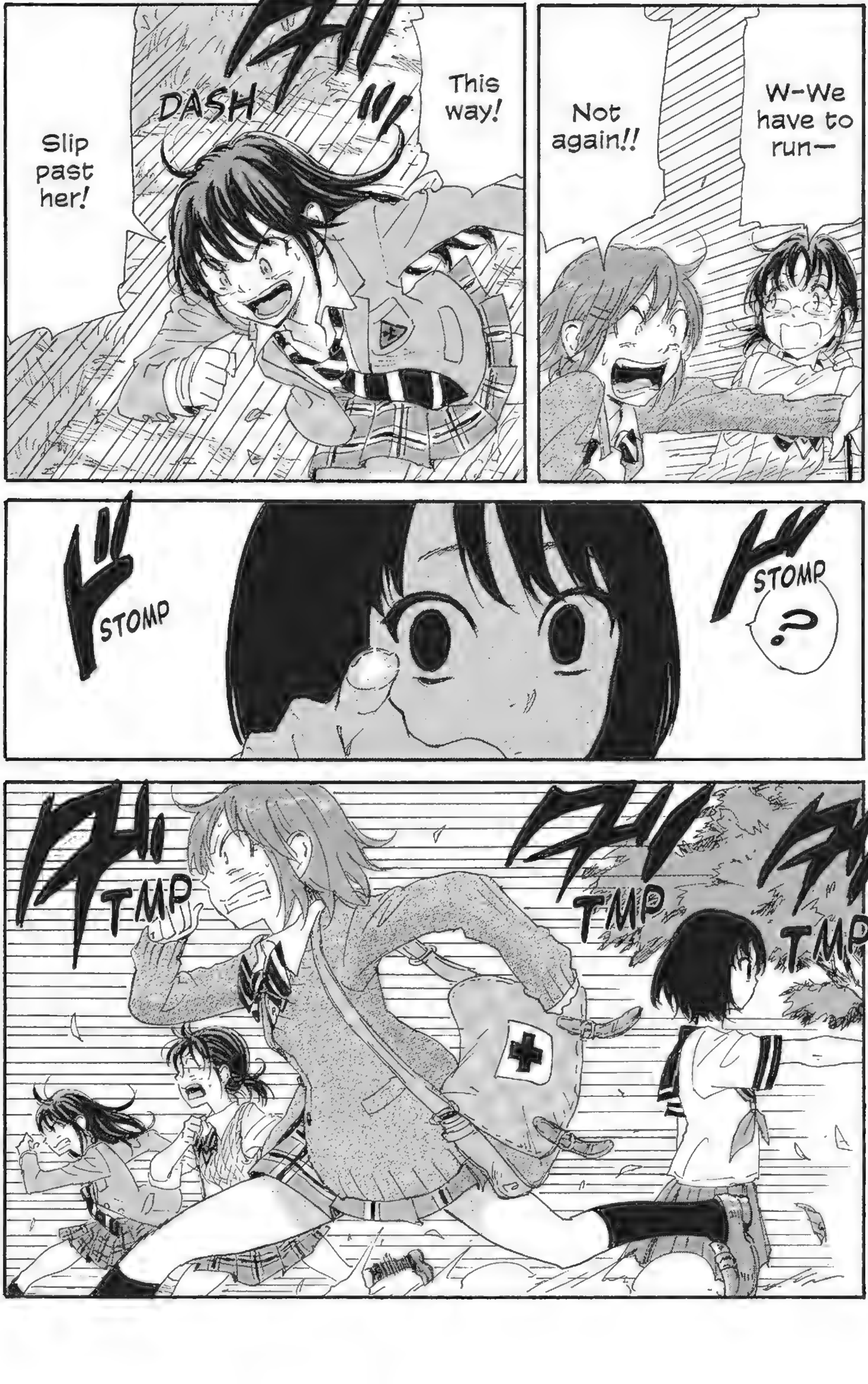

That can't be true!
She's the source...?!
ズザ!!
FREEZE
...Hey there!
SWSH
Mana Tsuburaya, right? Do you remember me?
I'm the Coppelion class representative. Ibara Naruse.
...What's goin' on? Why are you here all by yourse—
SWSH
FWIP

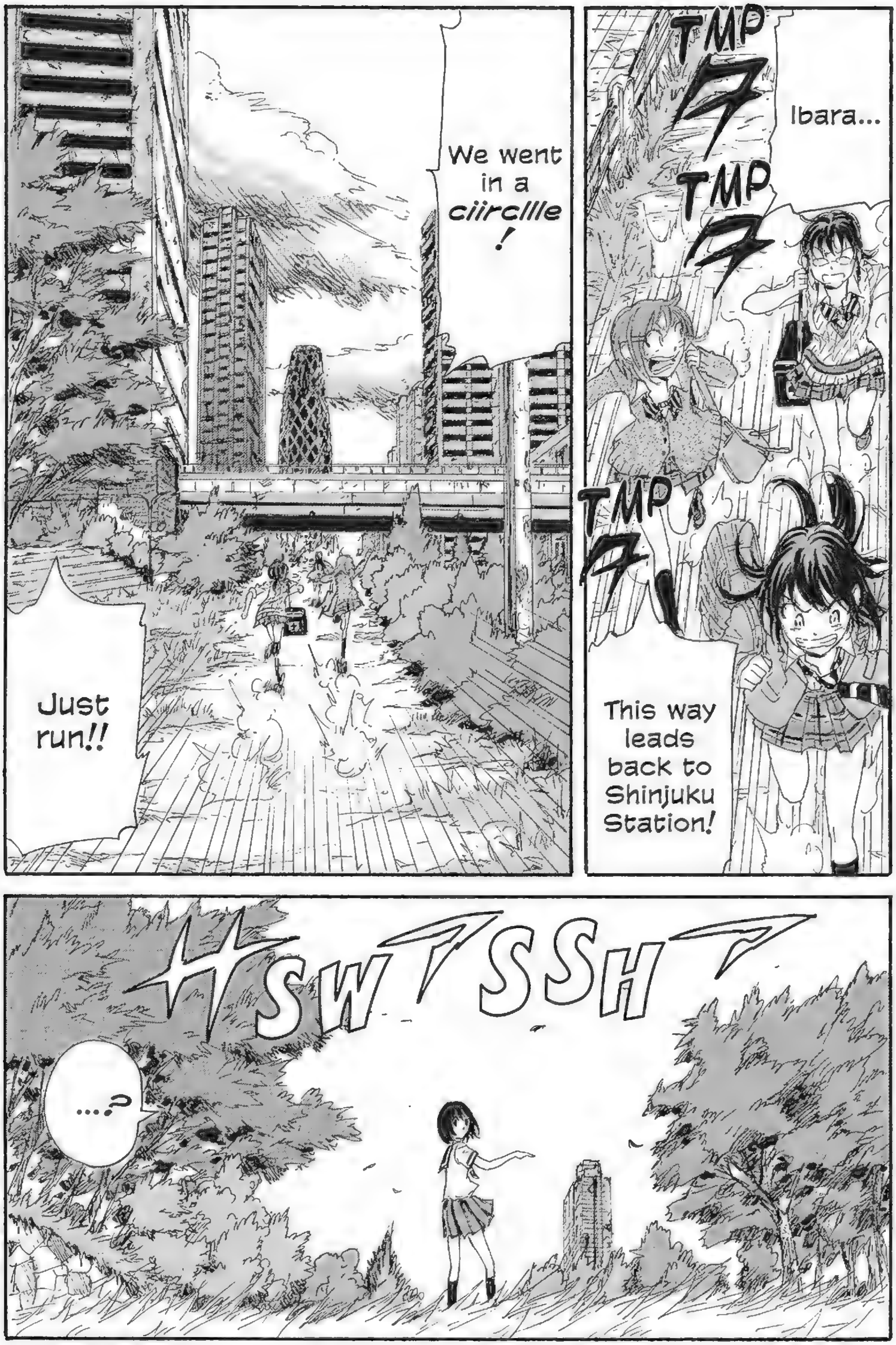

!!
VWOOM

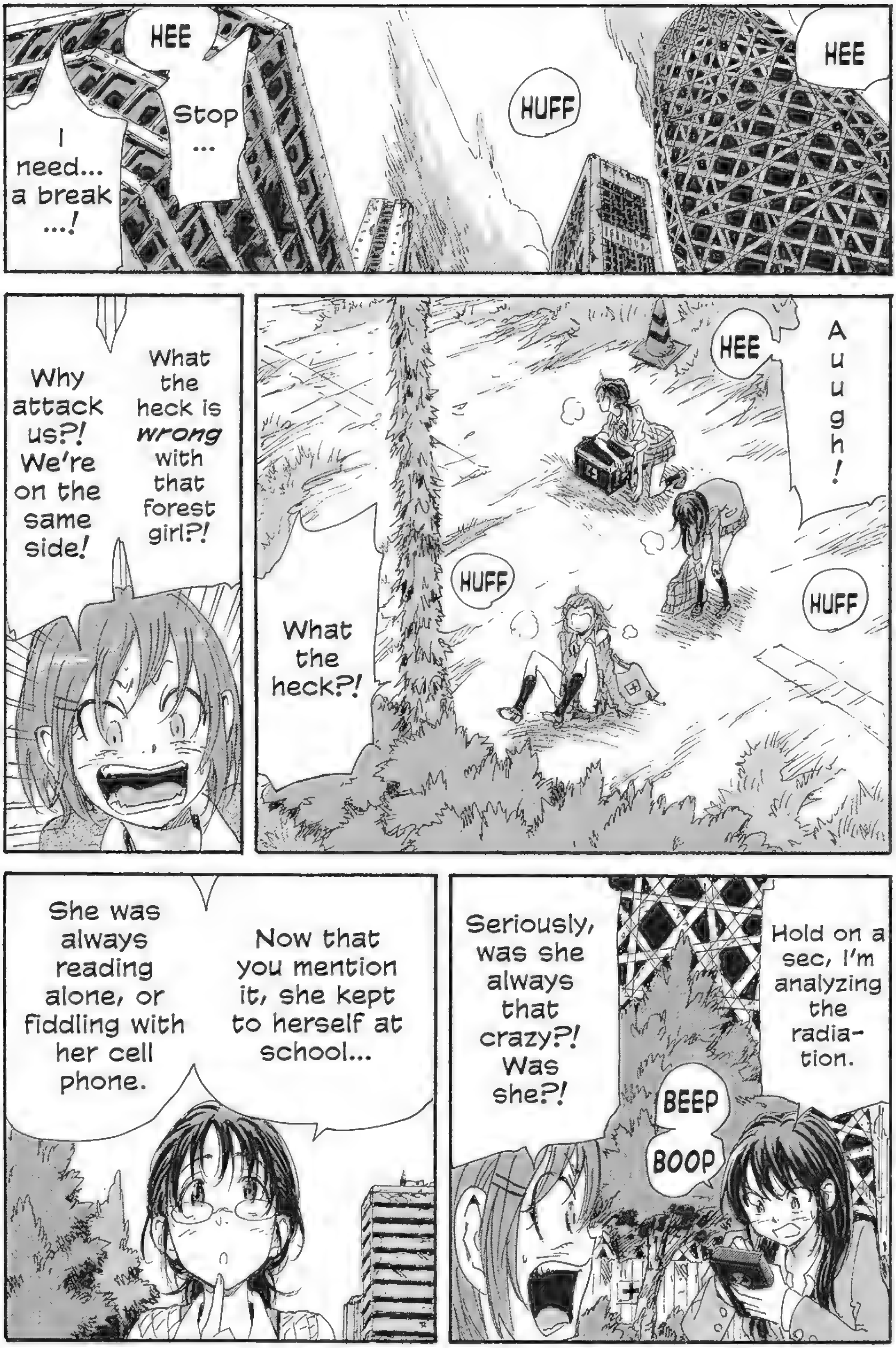

FWOOSH
Ahhh!!
HWOOO
?!
FWUMP
Yeek!!
Oof!
...
Wh... wh...

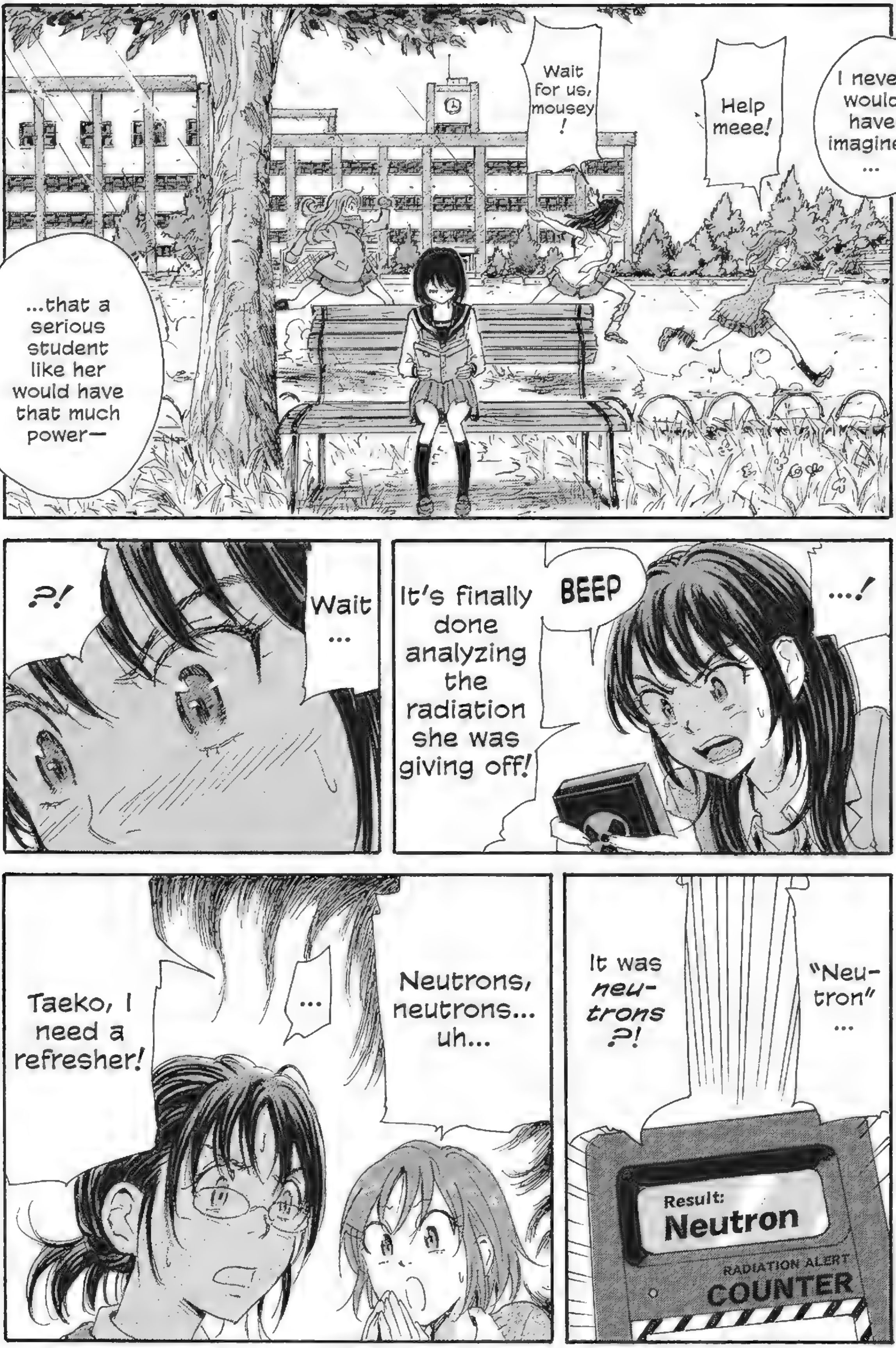

What the heck's her problem ?!
That was...
...some kind of shock-wave!
A shock-wave ...
Haven't I seen somethin' like that before —?
GASP

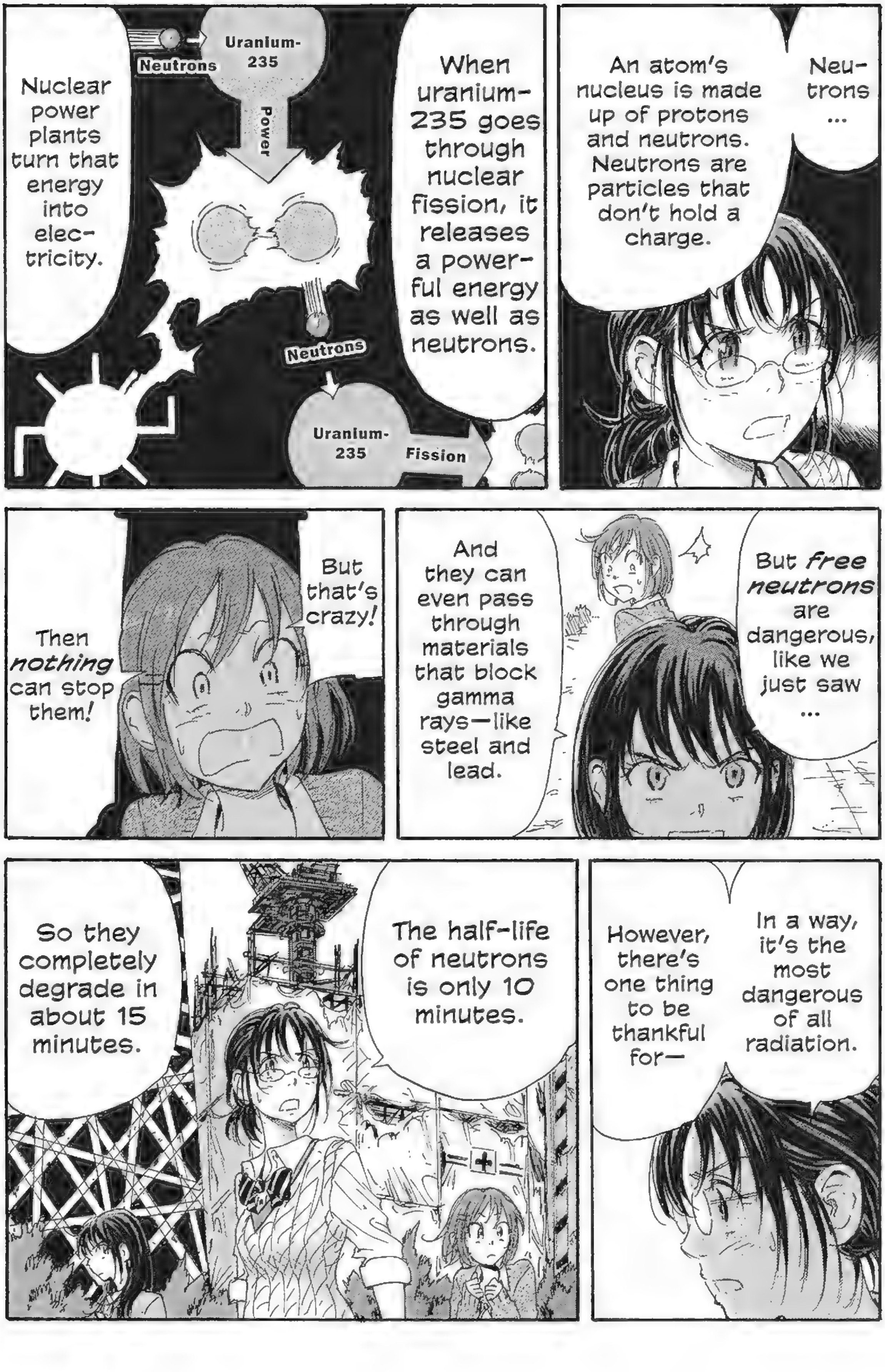

A...
Aoi?!
Huh?
What is it, Ibara?
...
Ibara! Miss Tsuburaya, she's—
!!
Shit...
FZZT
FZZT
VWEEE
She's gonna attack again!

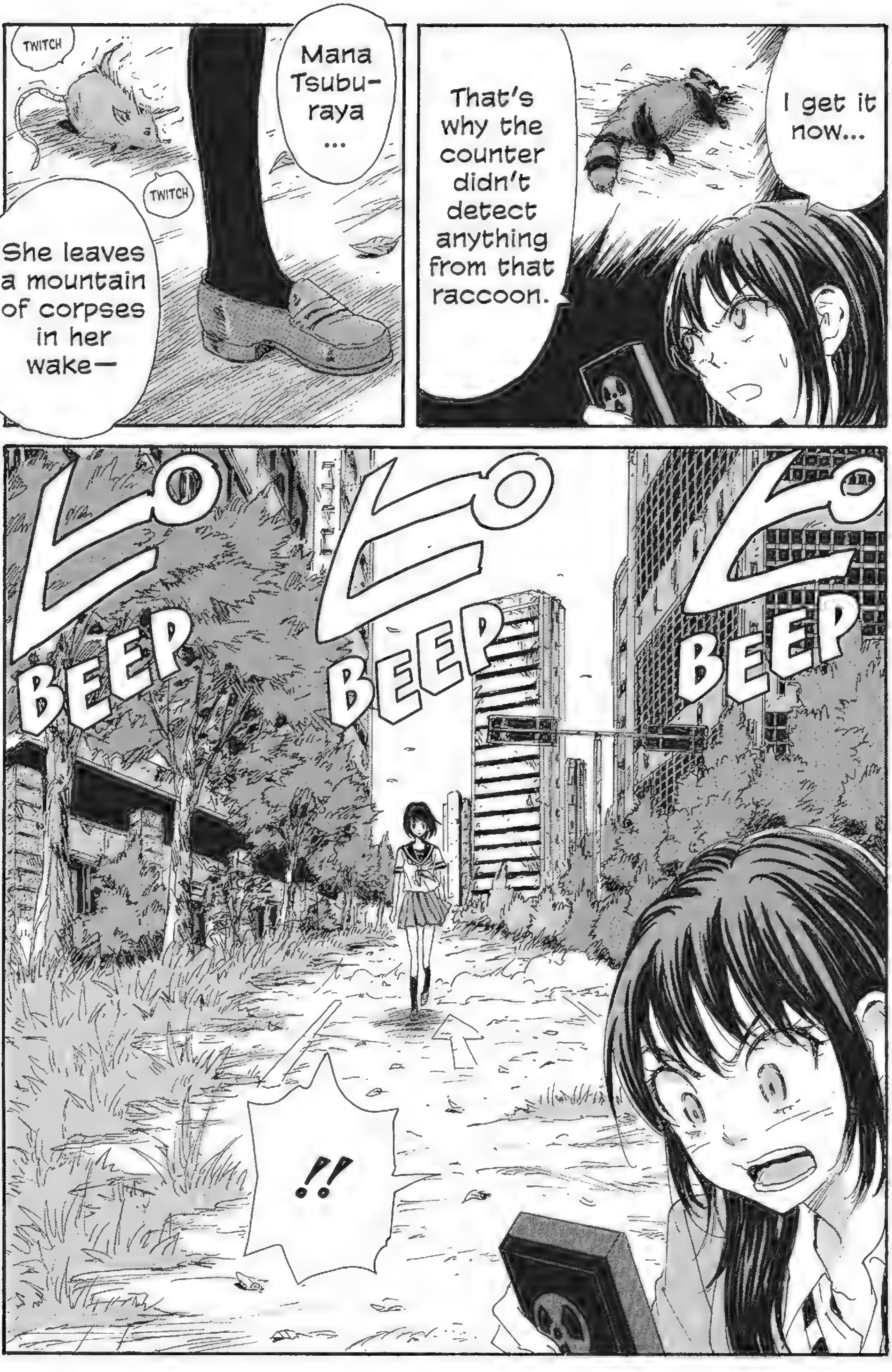

W-We have to run—
Not again!!
This way!
DASH
Slip past her!
STOMP
?
STOMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

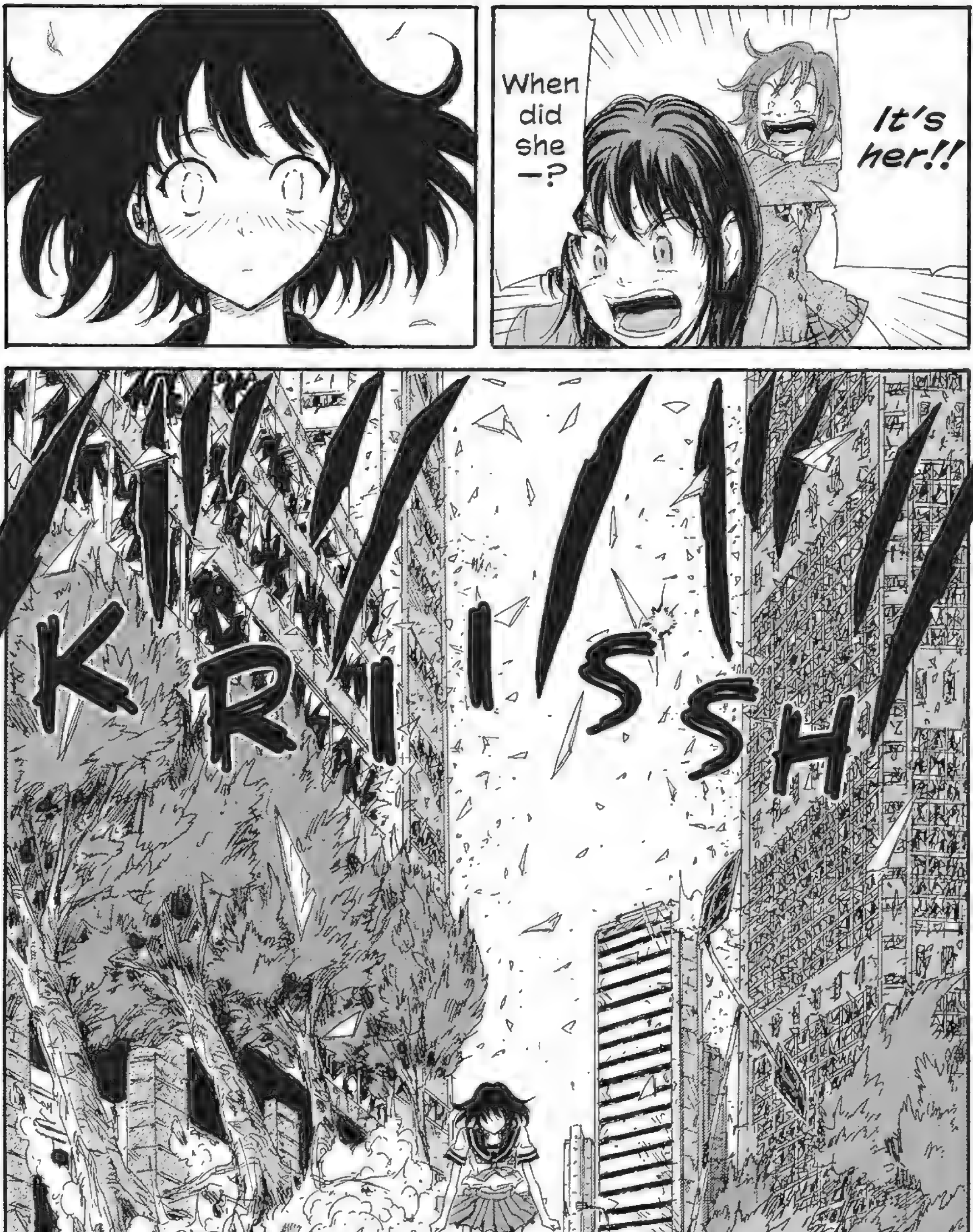

TMP
Ibara...
TMP
TMP
This way leads back to Shinjuku Station!
We went in a ciirclle!
Just run!!
SWSSH
...?

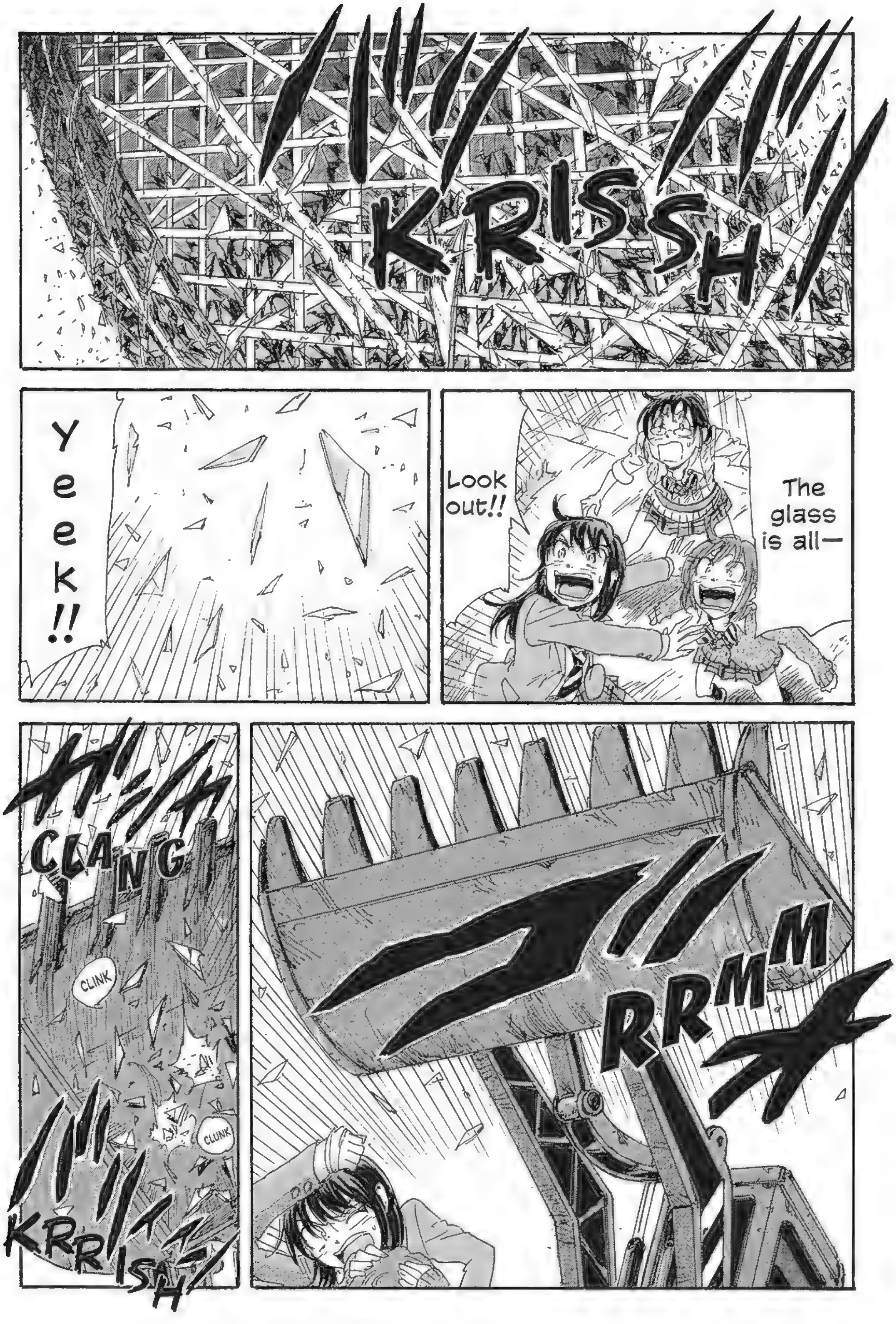

HEE
HUFF
Stop...
HEE
I need... a break...!
Augh!
HEE
HUFF
What the heck?!
HUFF
What the heck is *wrong* with that forest girl?!
Why attack us?! We're on the same side!
Hold on a sec, I'm analyzing the radiation.
BEEP
BOOP
Seriously, was she always that crazy?! Was she?!
Now that you mention it, she kept to herself at school...
She was always reading alone, or fiddling with her cell phone.

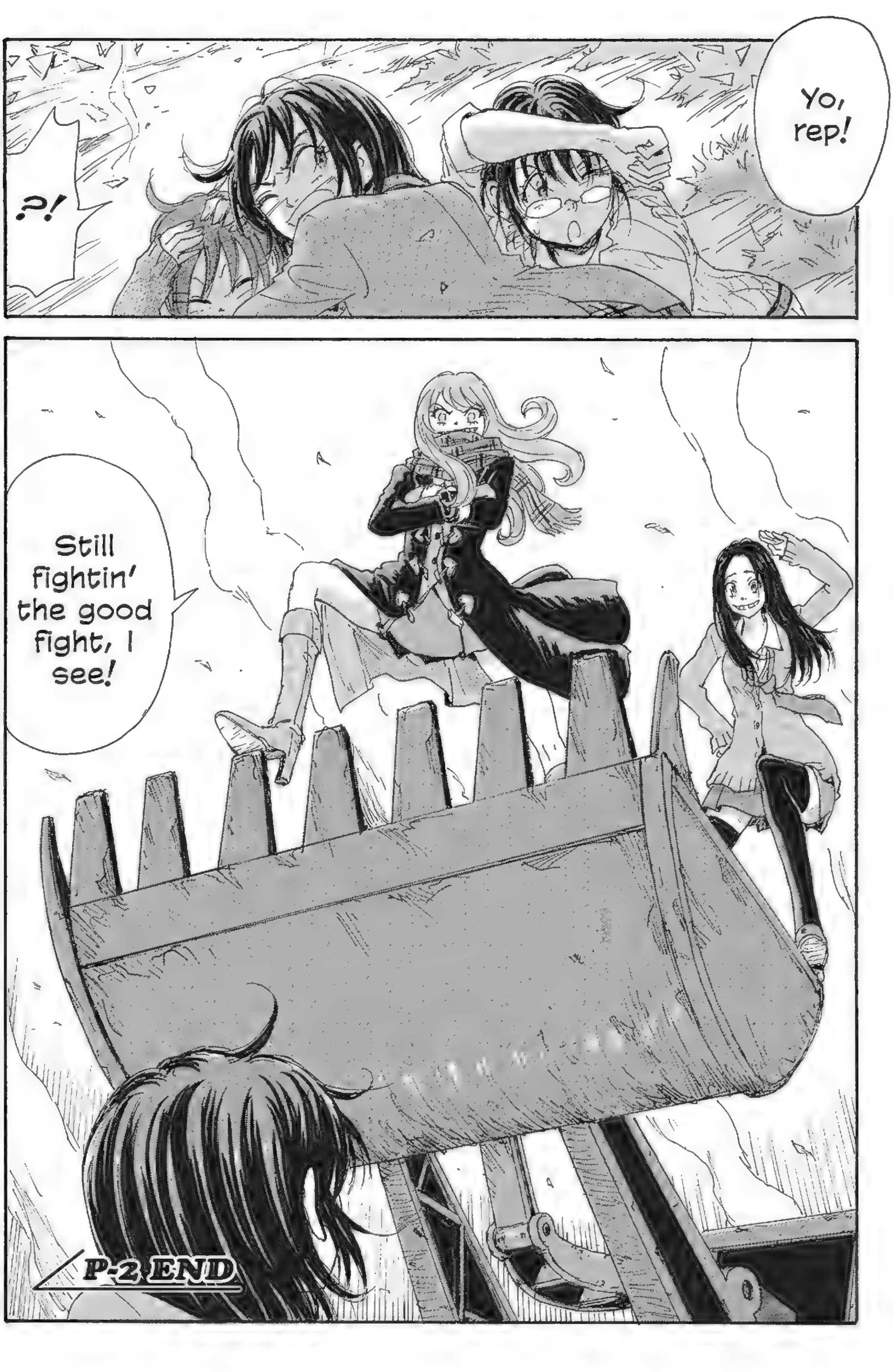

I never would have imagined...
Help meee!
Wait for us, mousey!
...that a serious student like her would have that much power—
...!
BEEP
It's finally done analyzing the radiation she was giving off!
Wait...
?!
"Neutron"...
It was *neutrons* ?!
Result: Neutron
RADIATION ALERT
COUNTER
Neutrons, neutrons... uh...
...
Taeko, I need a refresher!

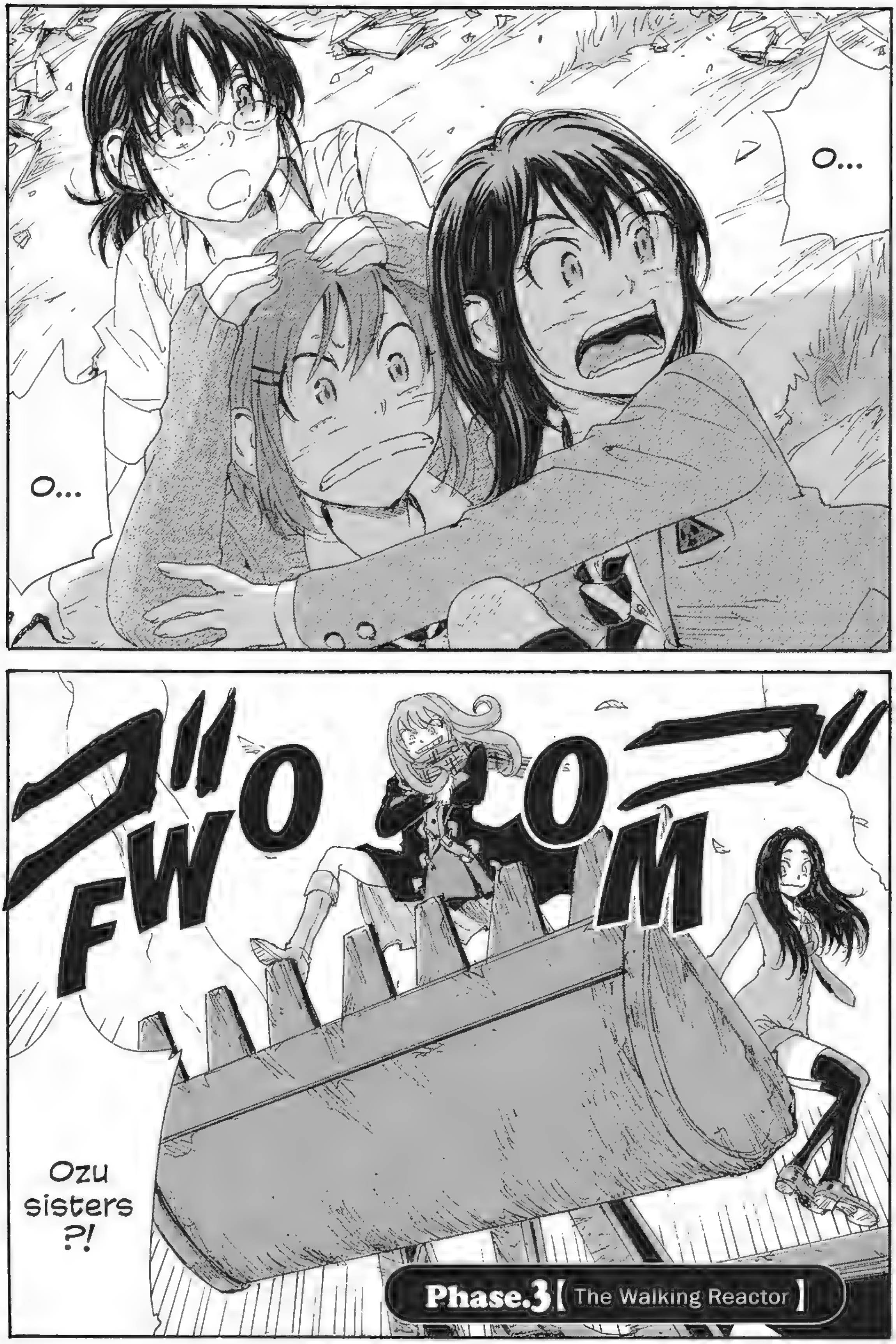

Neu-trons …
An atom's nucleus is made up of protons and neutrons. Neutrons are particles that don't hold a charge.
When uranium-235 goes through nuclear fission, it releases a powerful energy as well as neutrons.
Nuclear power plants turn that energy into electricity.
Neutrons
Uranium-235
Power
Neutrons
Uranium-235
Fission
But *free neutrons* are dangerous, like we just saw …
And they can even pass through materials that block gamma rays—like steel and lead.
But that's crazy!
Then *nothing* can stop them!
In a way, it's the most dangerous of all radiation.
However, there's one thing to be thankful for—
The half-life of neutrons is only 10 minutes.
So they completely degrade in about 15 minutes.


I get it now...
That's why the counter didn't detect anything from that raccoon.
Mana Tsuburaya...
TWITCH
TWITCH
She leaves a mountain of corpses in her wake—
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
!!

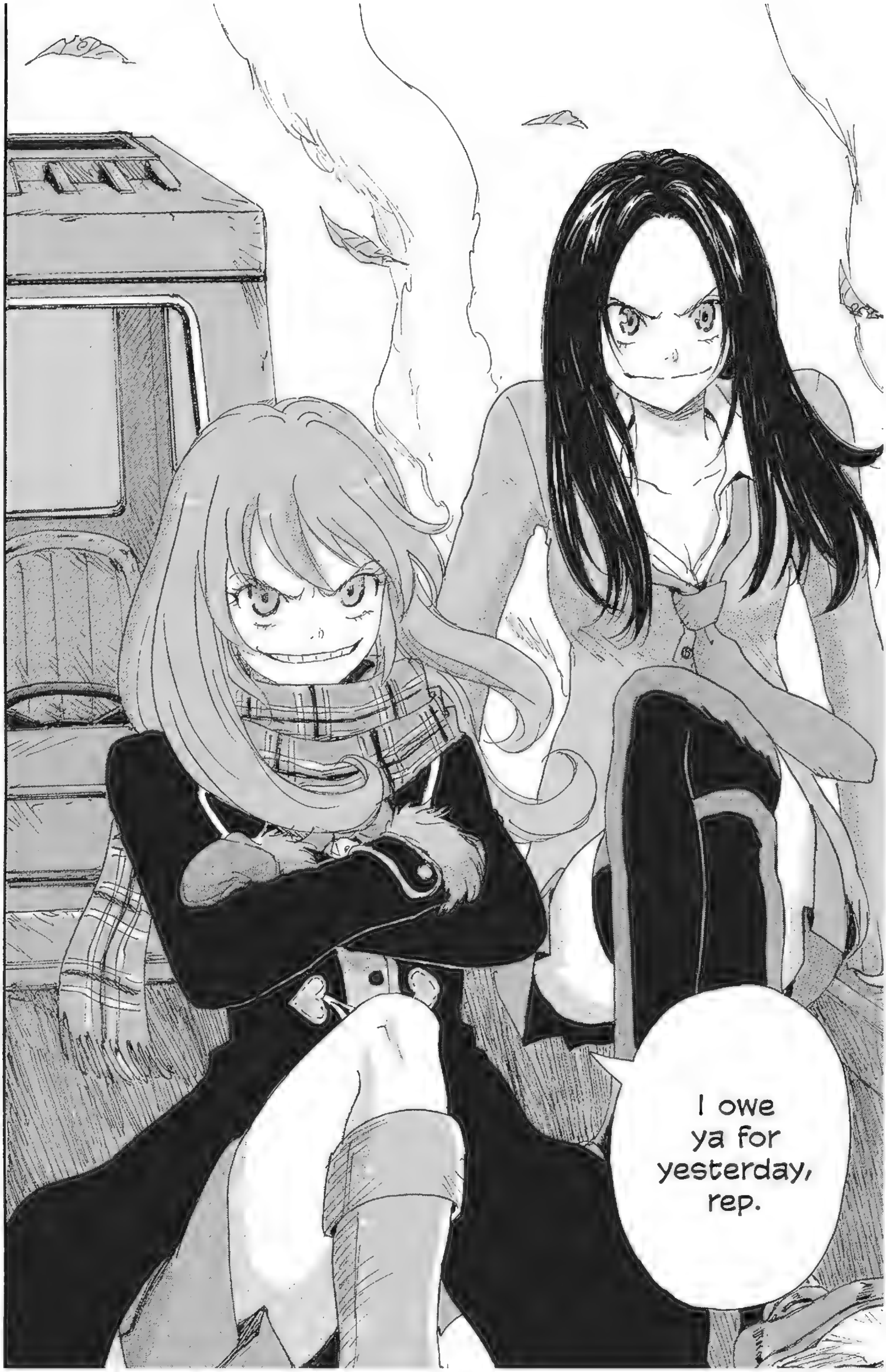

It's her!!
When did she —?
KRISSH!

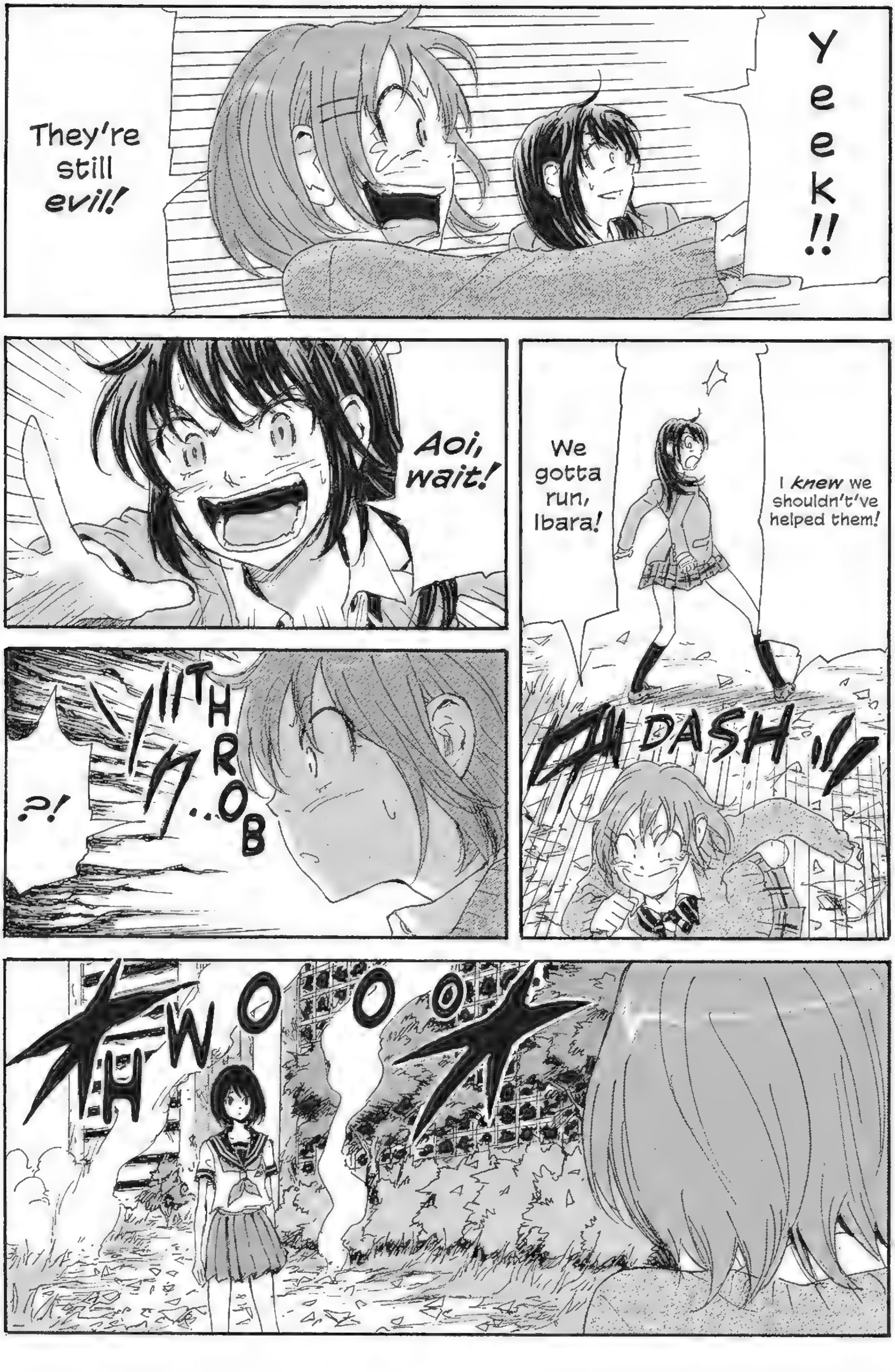

KRISSH
The glass is all—
Look out!!
Yeek!!
RRMM
CLANG
CLINK
CLUNK
KRRISH

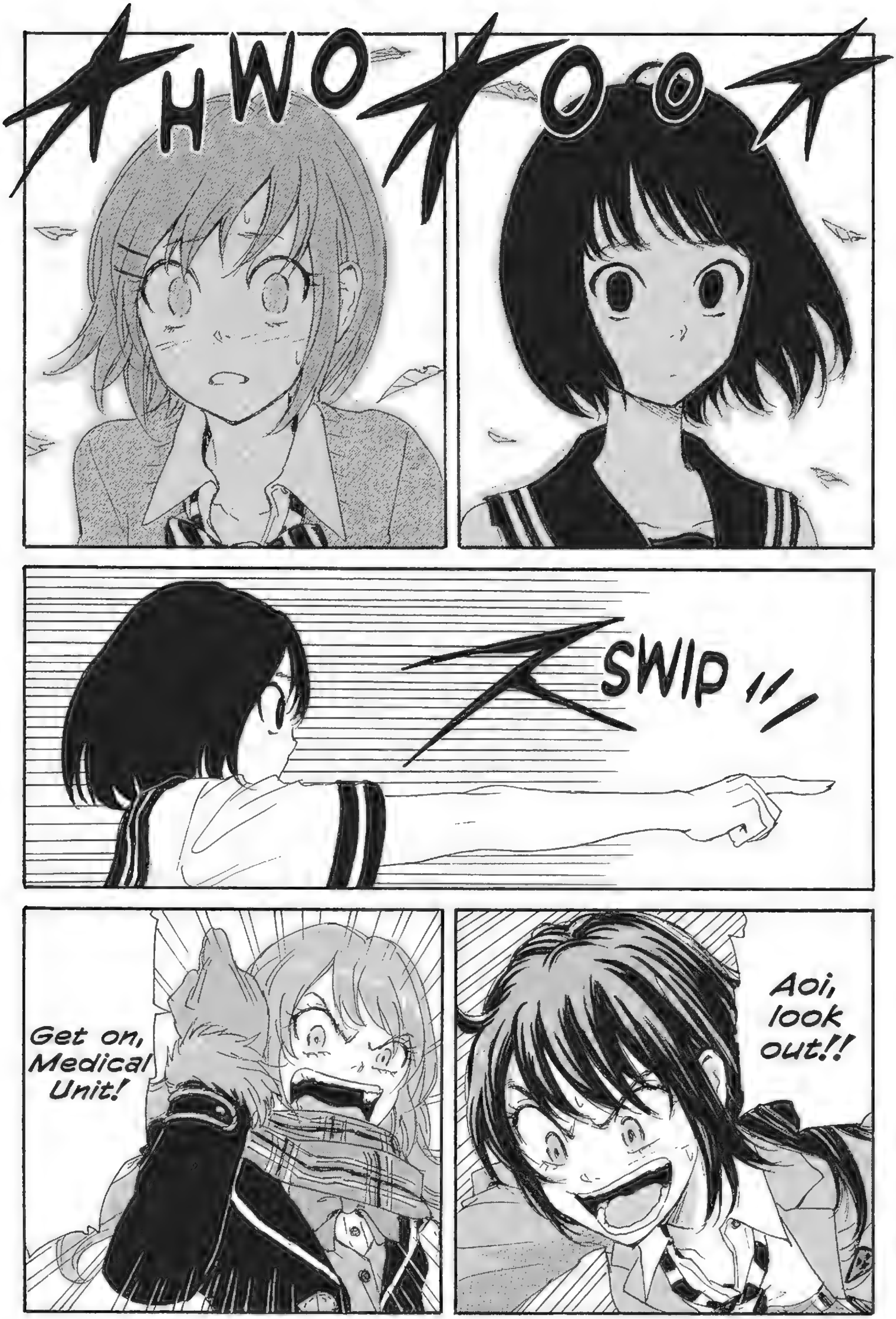

Yo, rep!
?!
Still fightin' the good fight, I see!
P-2 END

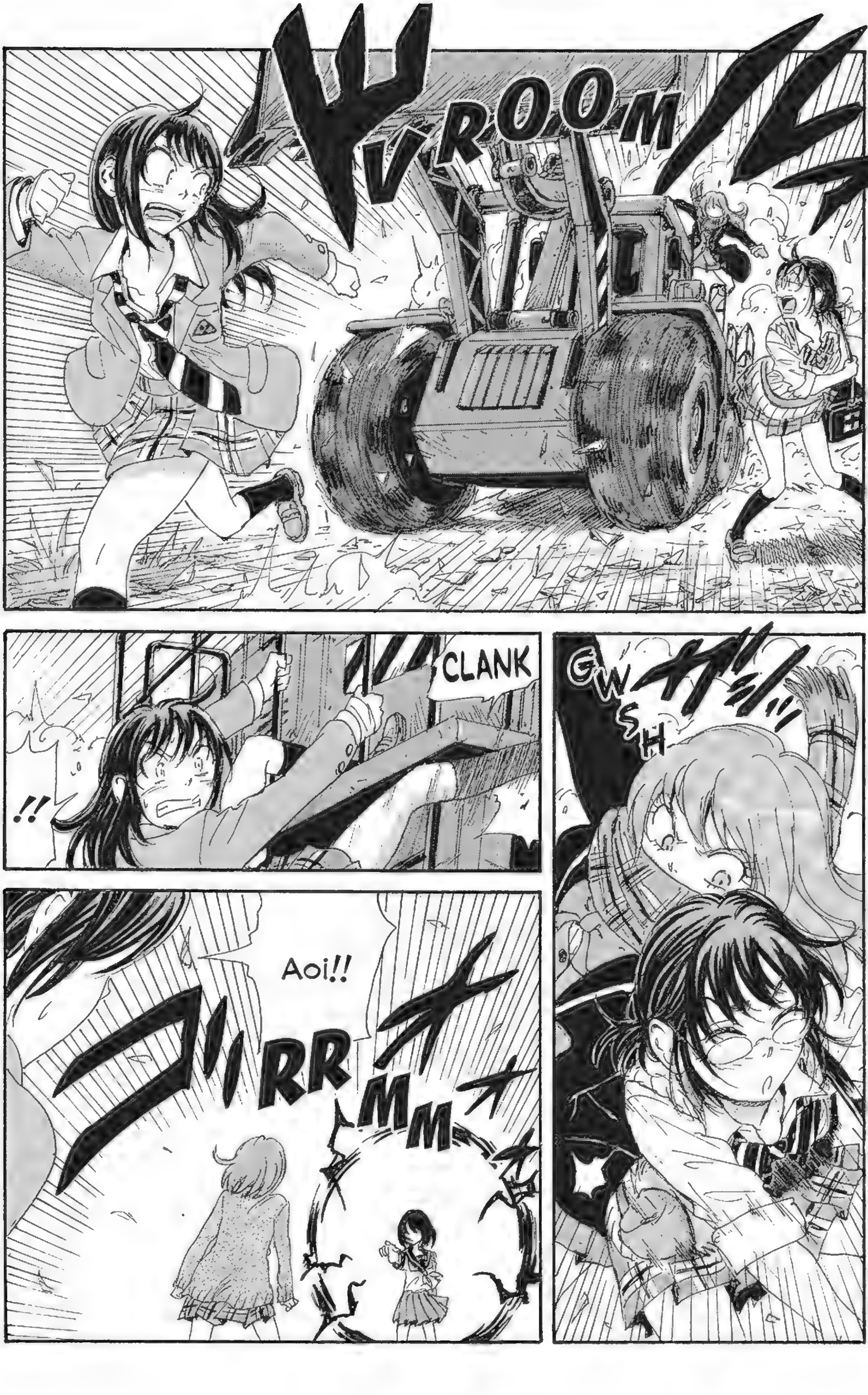

O...
O...
FWOOM
Ozu sisters?!

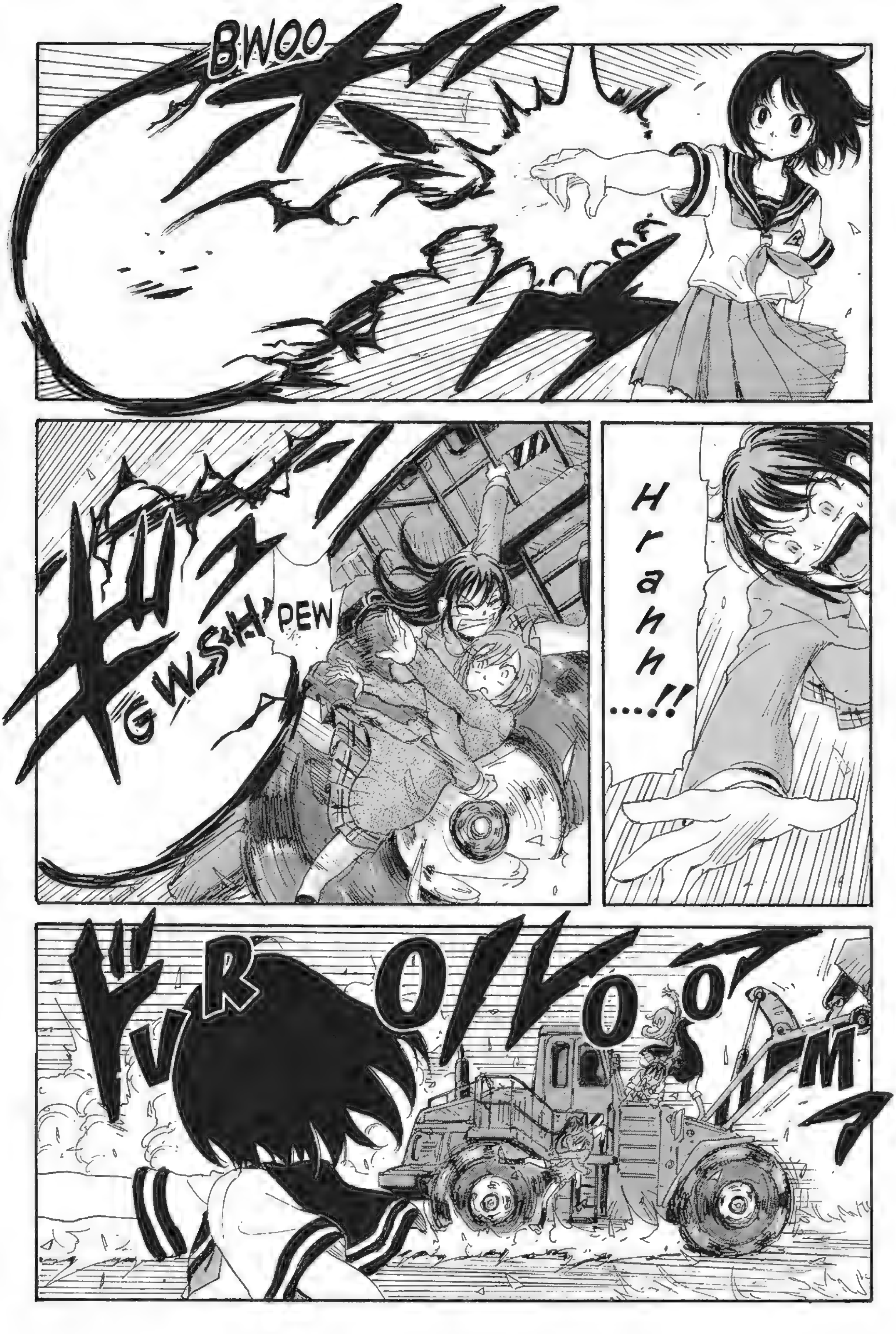
Phase.3【The Walking Reactor】

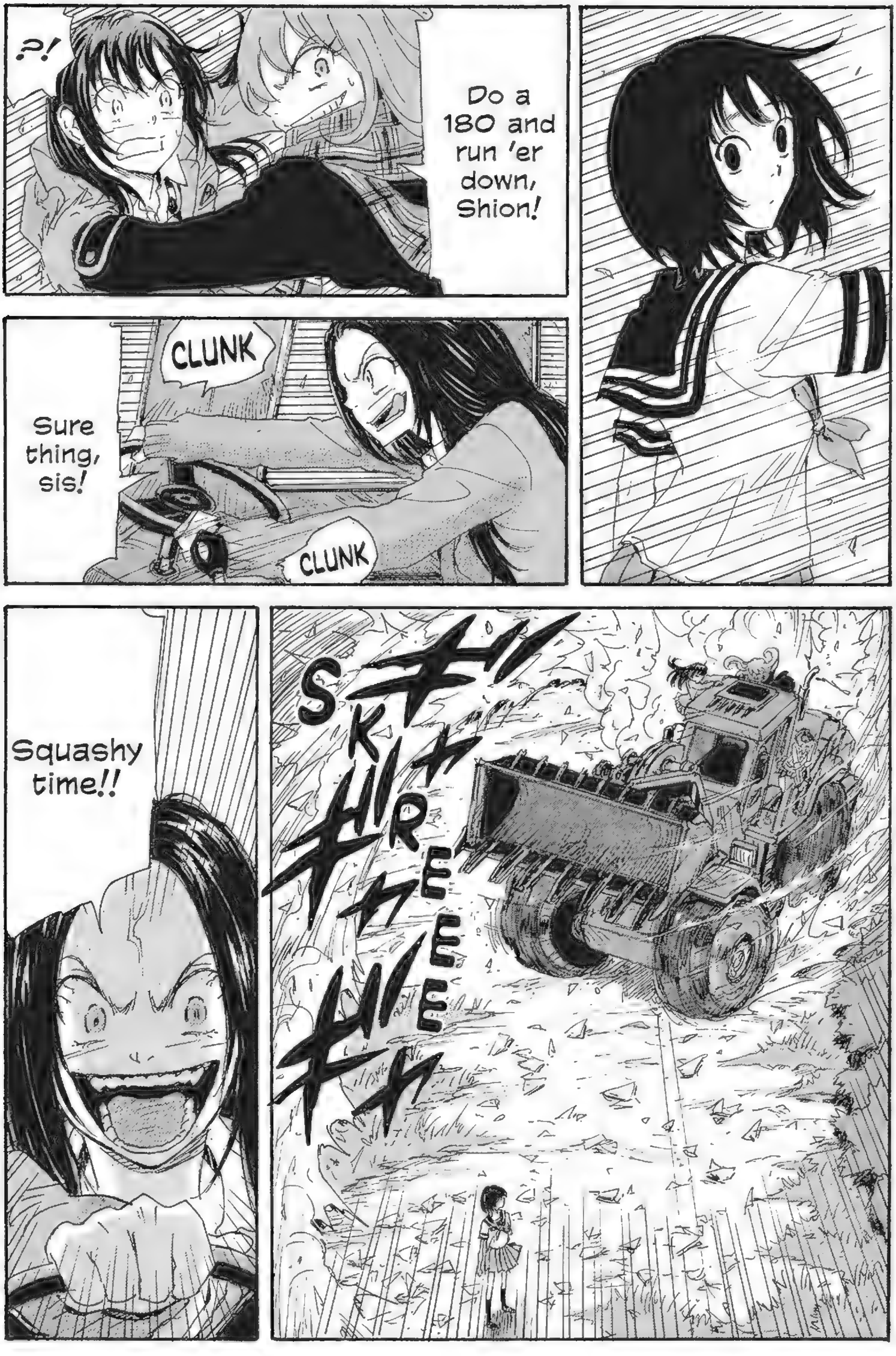

I owe ya for yesterday, rep.

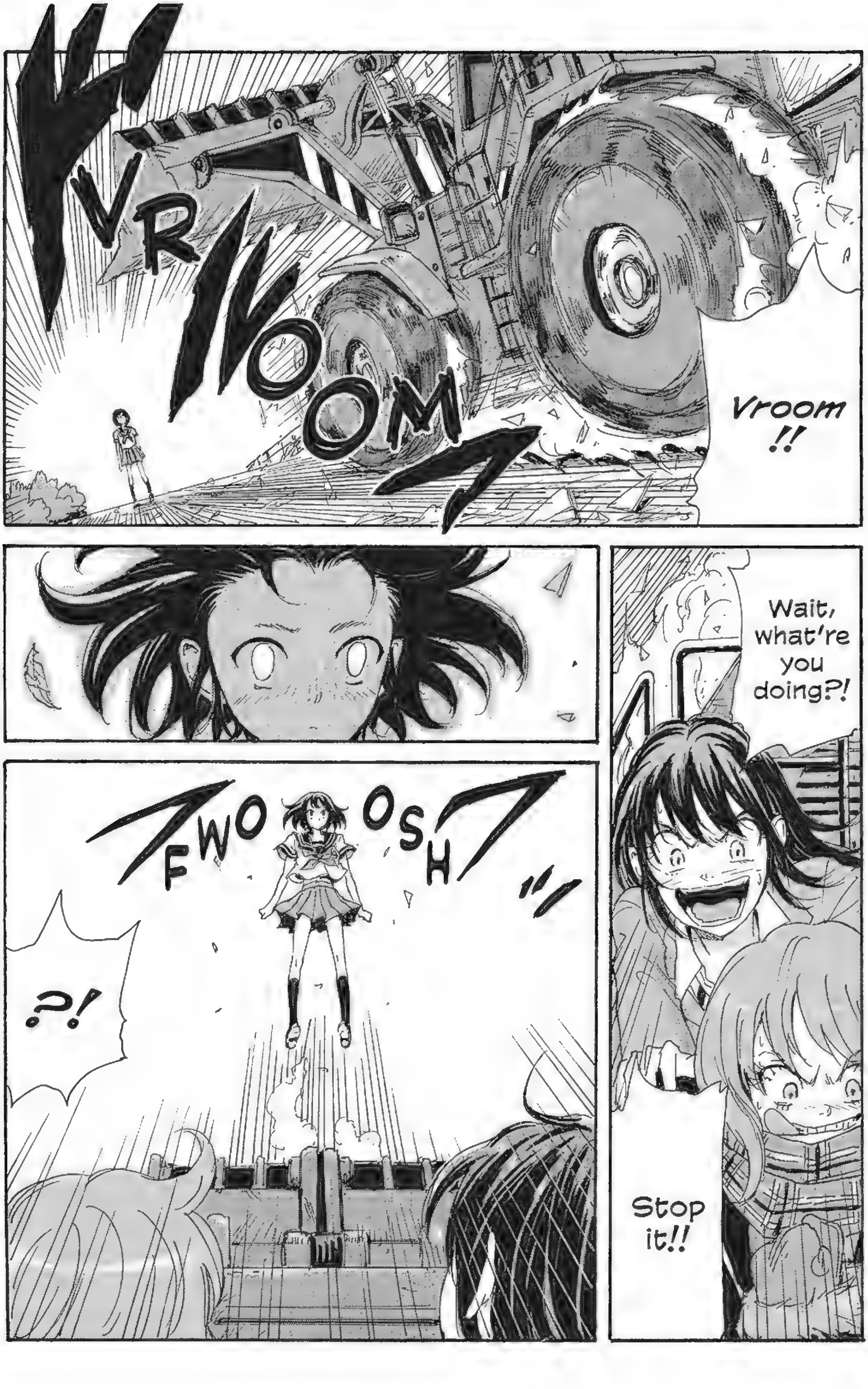

Yeek!!
They're still *evil!*
I *knew* we shouldn't've helped them!
We gotta run, Ibara!
DASH!!
Aoi, wait!
THROB...
?!
WHOOO

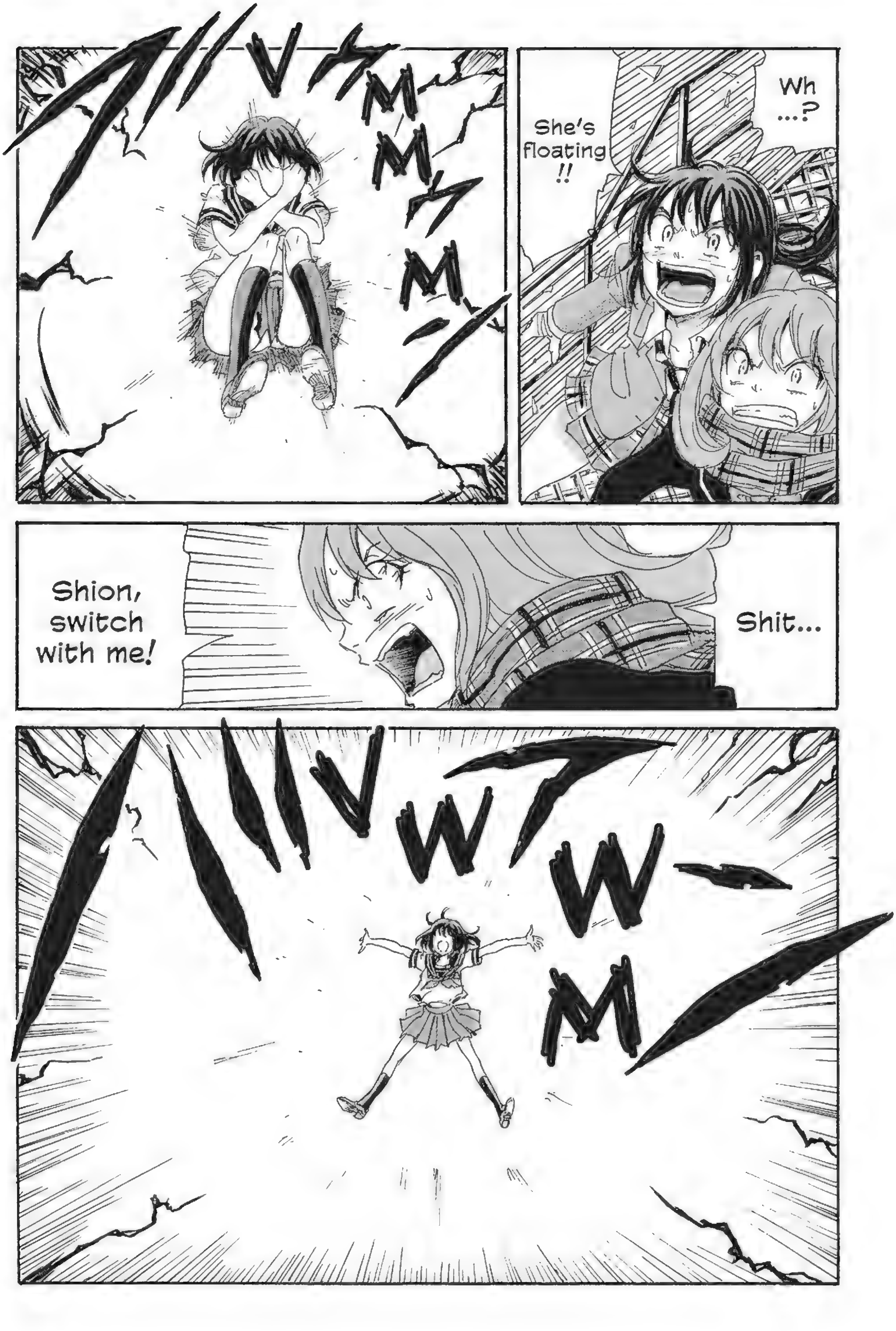

HWO
OOO
SWIP
Aoi, look out!!
Get on, Medical Unit!

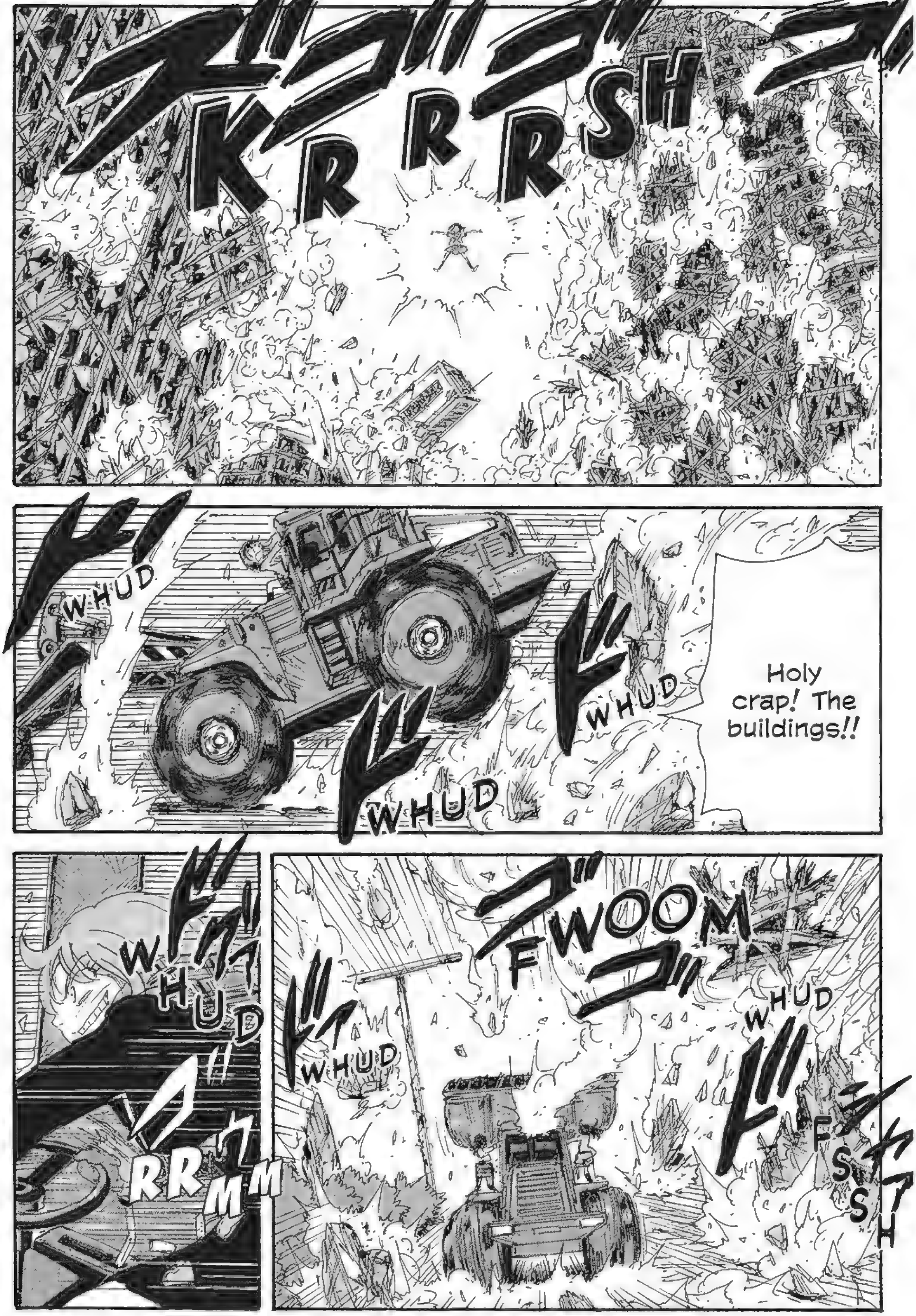

VROOM
GWSH
CLANK
!!
Aoi!!
RRMM

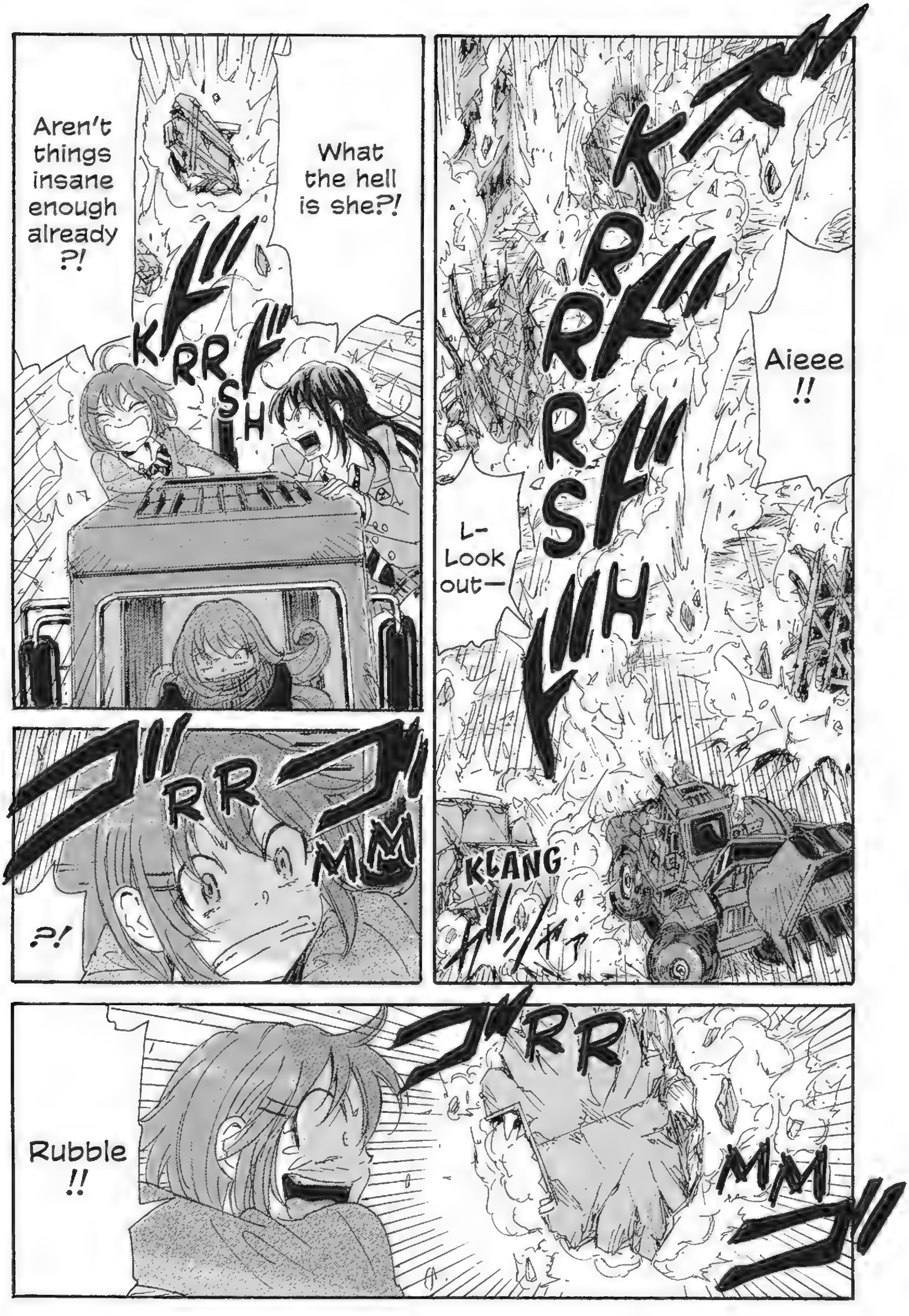

BWOO
Hrahn....!!
GWSH PEW
VROOOOM

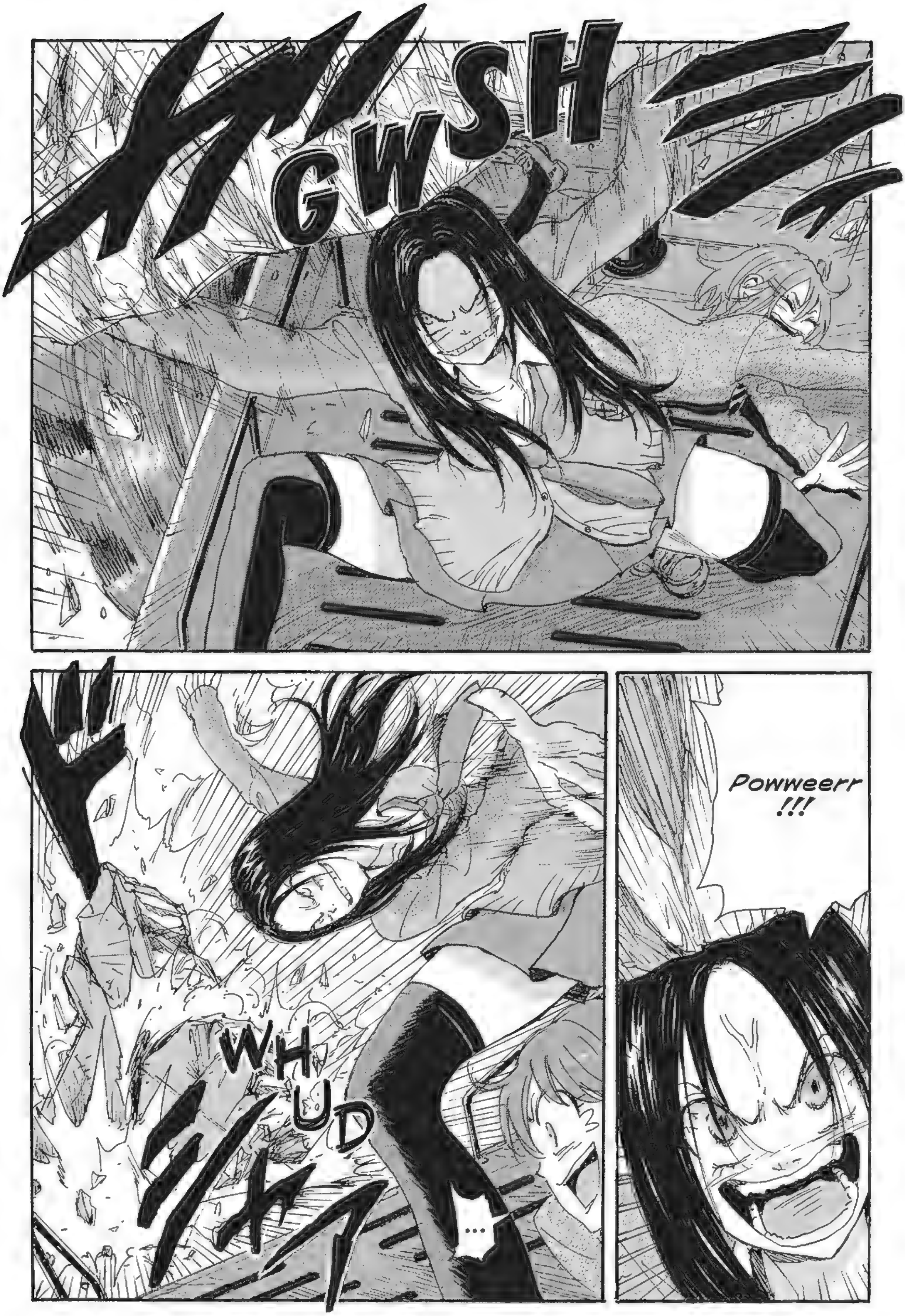

?!
Do a 180 and run 'er down, Shion!
CLUNK
Sure thing, sis!
CLUNK
SKRREEEE
Squashy time!!

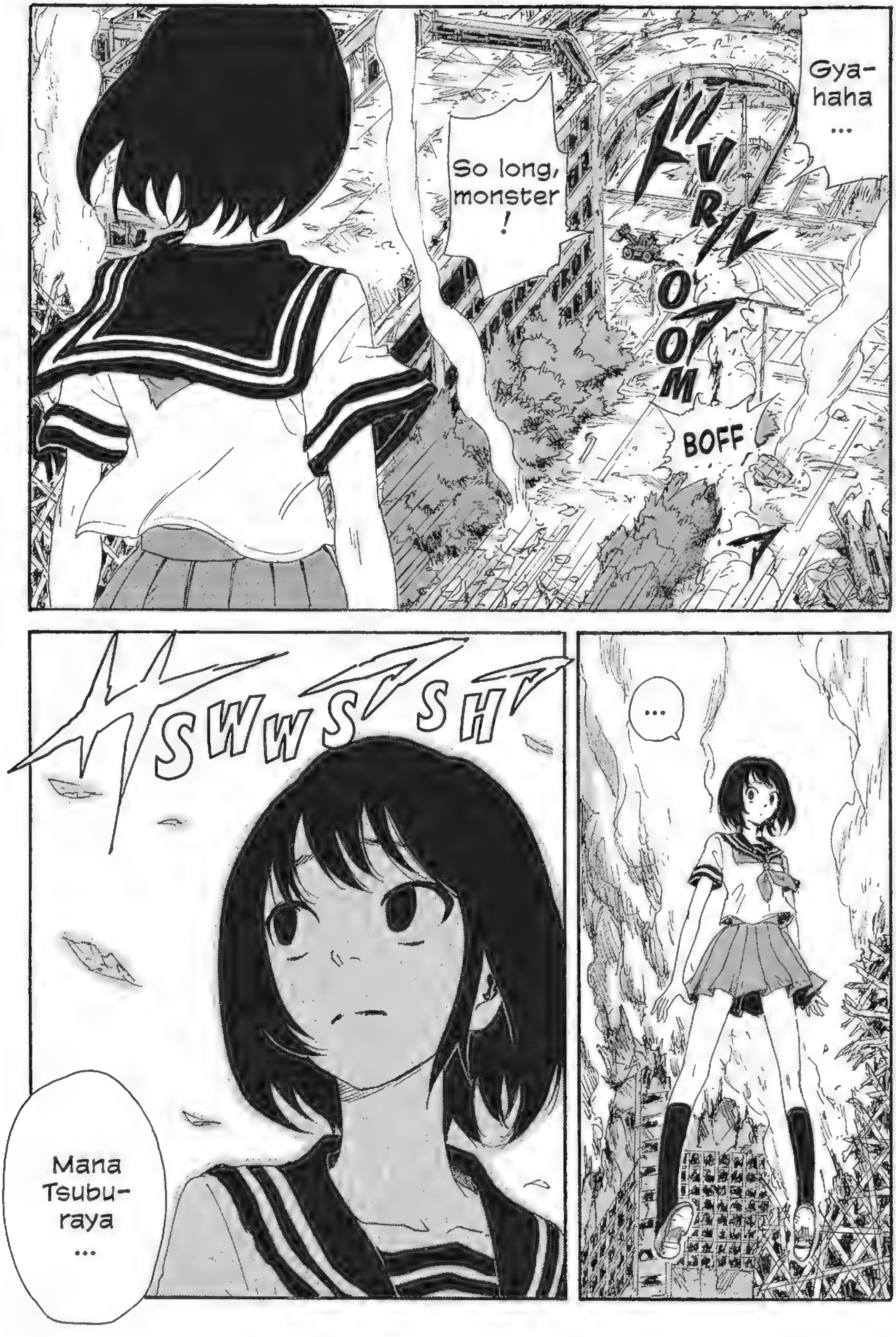

VRVOOOM
Vroom!!
Wait, what're you doing?!
Stop it!!
FWOOSH
?!

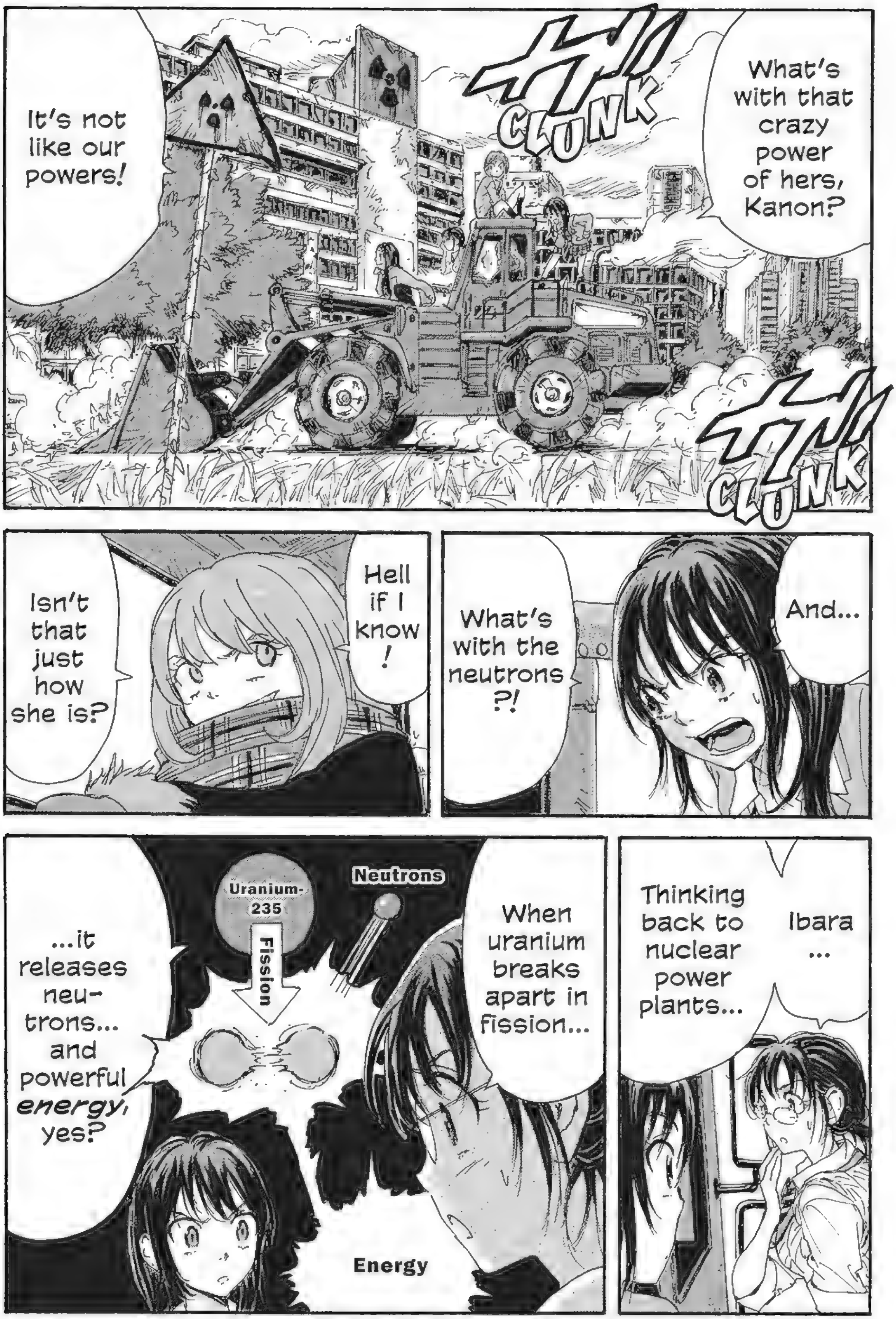

Wh ...?
She's floating!!
VMMMM—
Shit...
Shion, switch with me!
VWWWM

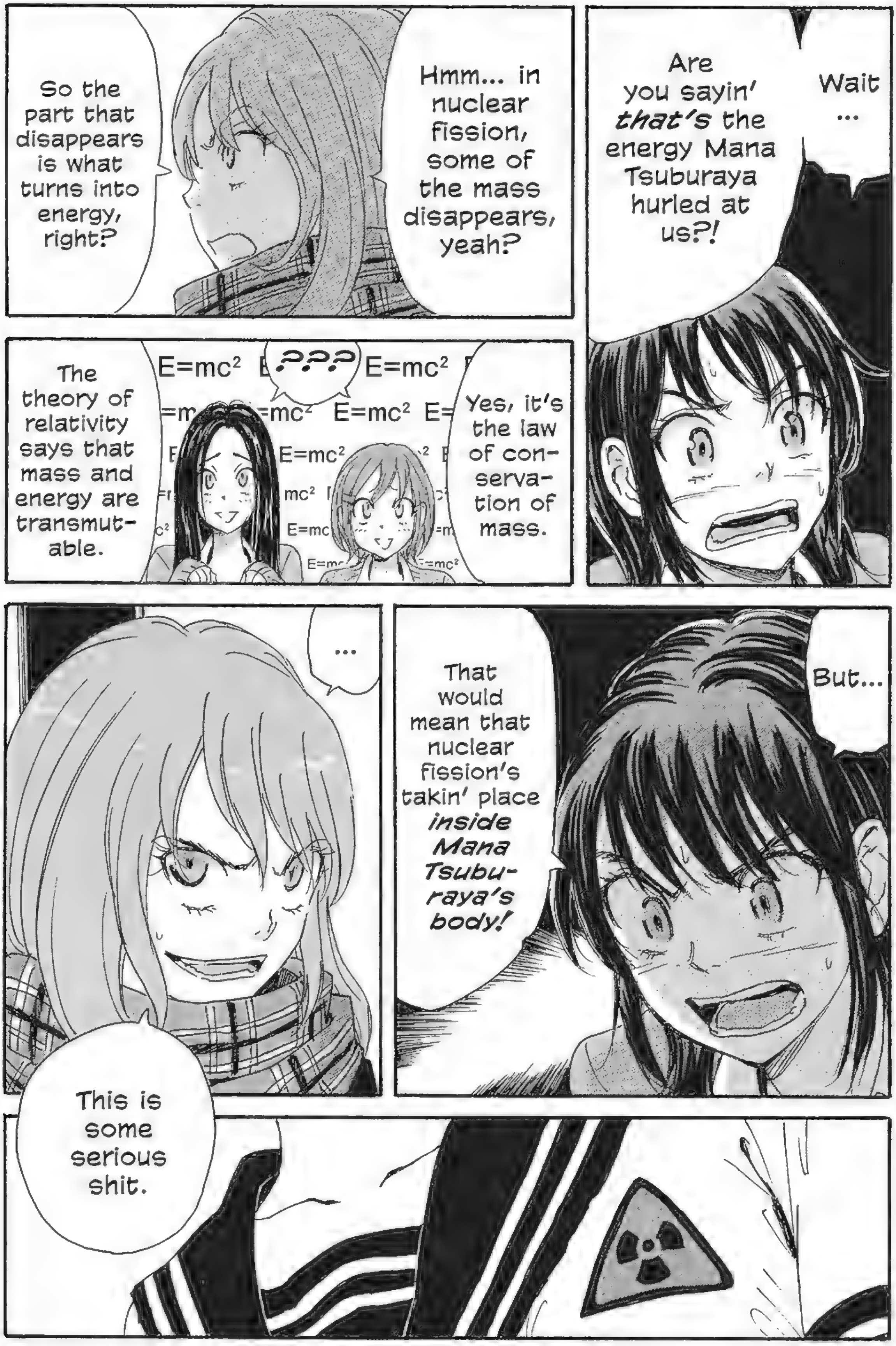

KRRRSH
Holy crap! The buildings!!
WHUD
WHUD
WHUD
FWOOM
WHUD
WHUD
FSSSH
WHUD
RRMM

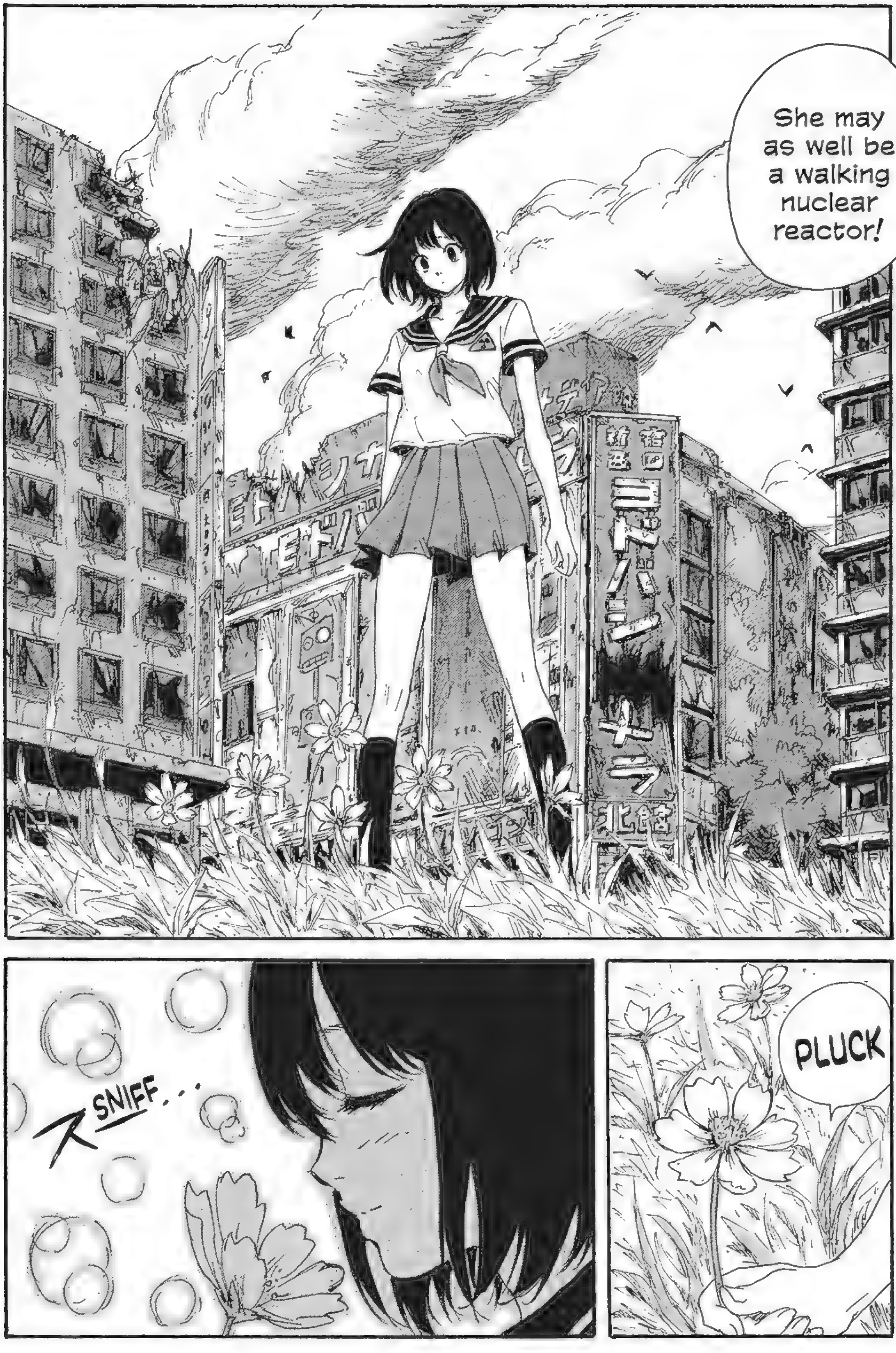

Aieee!!
L- Look out—
KRRRSH
KLANG
What the hell is she?!
Aren't things insane enough already?!
KRRSH
RR
MM
?!
RR
MM
Rubble!!

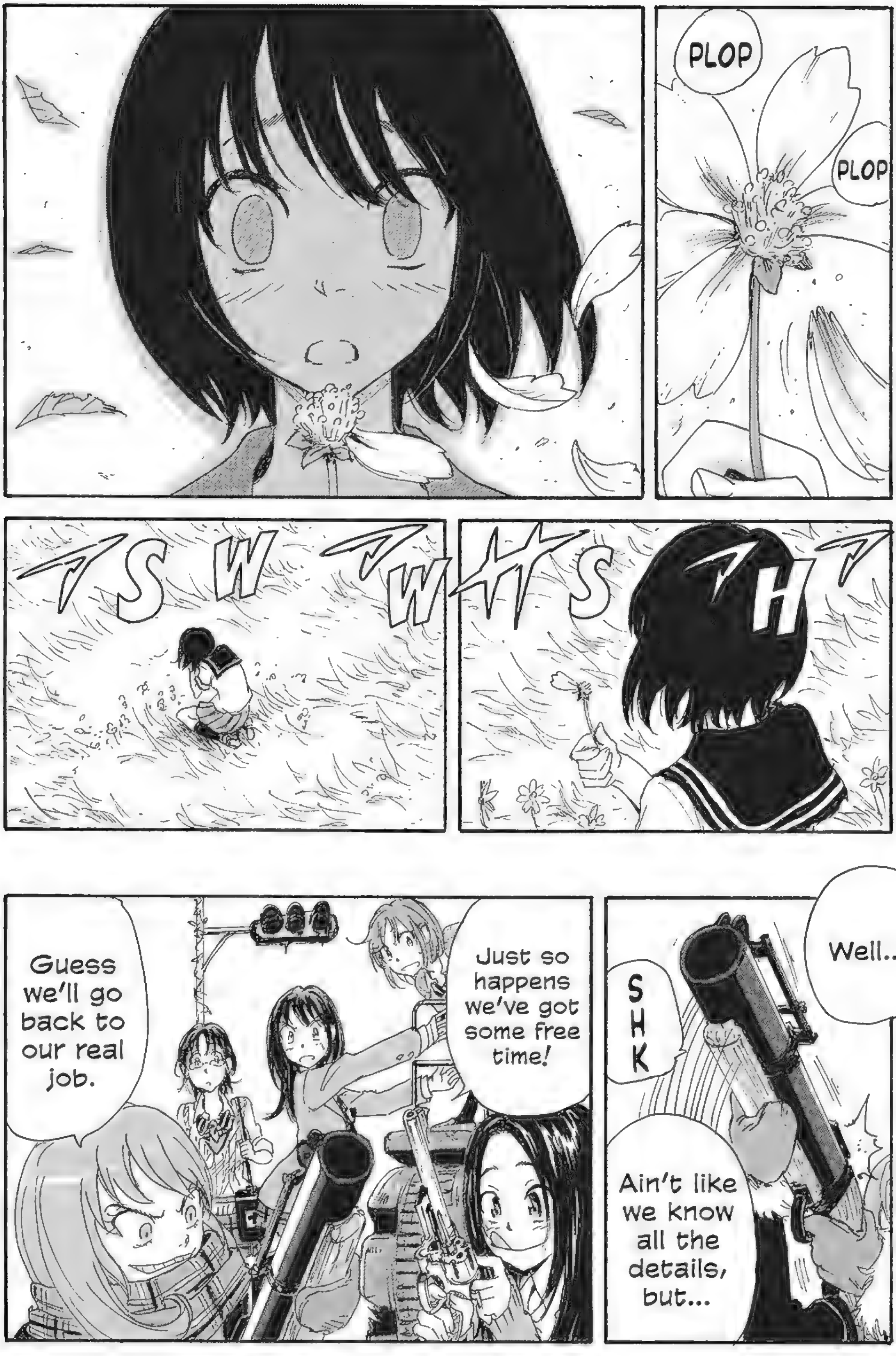

GWSH
Powweerr !!!
WHUD
...

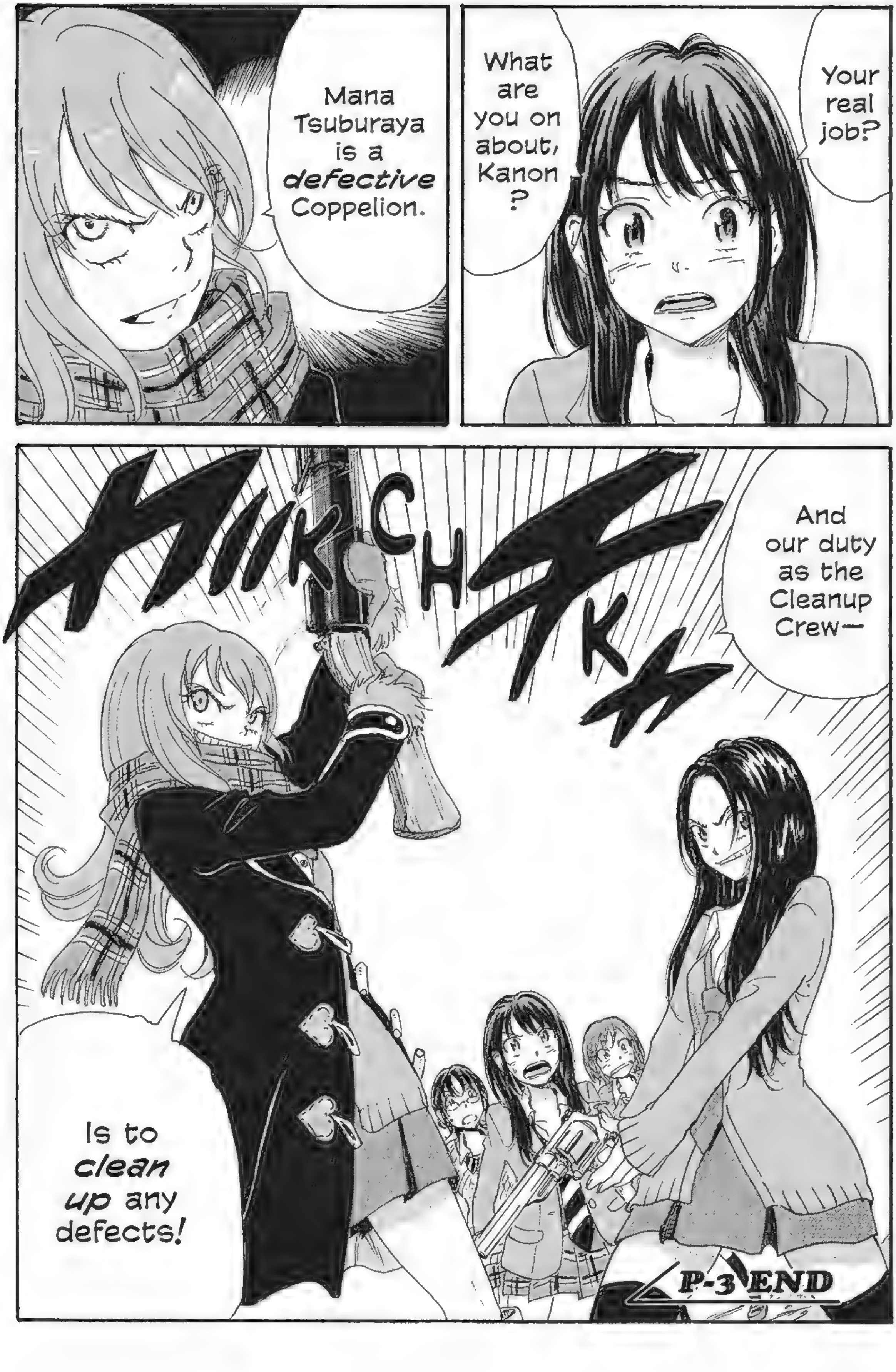

Gya-haha ...
So long, monster!
VRIVOOOM
BOFF
SWWSSH
...
Mana Tsuburaya ...


CLUNK
What's with that crazy power of hers, Kanon?
It's not like our powers!
CLUNK
And...
What's with the neutrons?!
Hell if I know!
Isn't that just how she is?
Ibara...
Thinking back to nuclear power plants...
When uranium breaks apart in fission...
Uranium-235
Neutrons
Fission
Energy
...it releases neutrons... and powerful *energy*, yes?

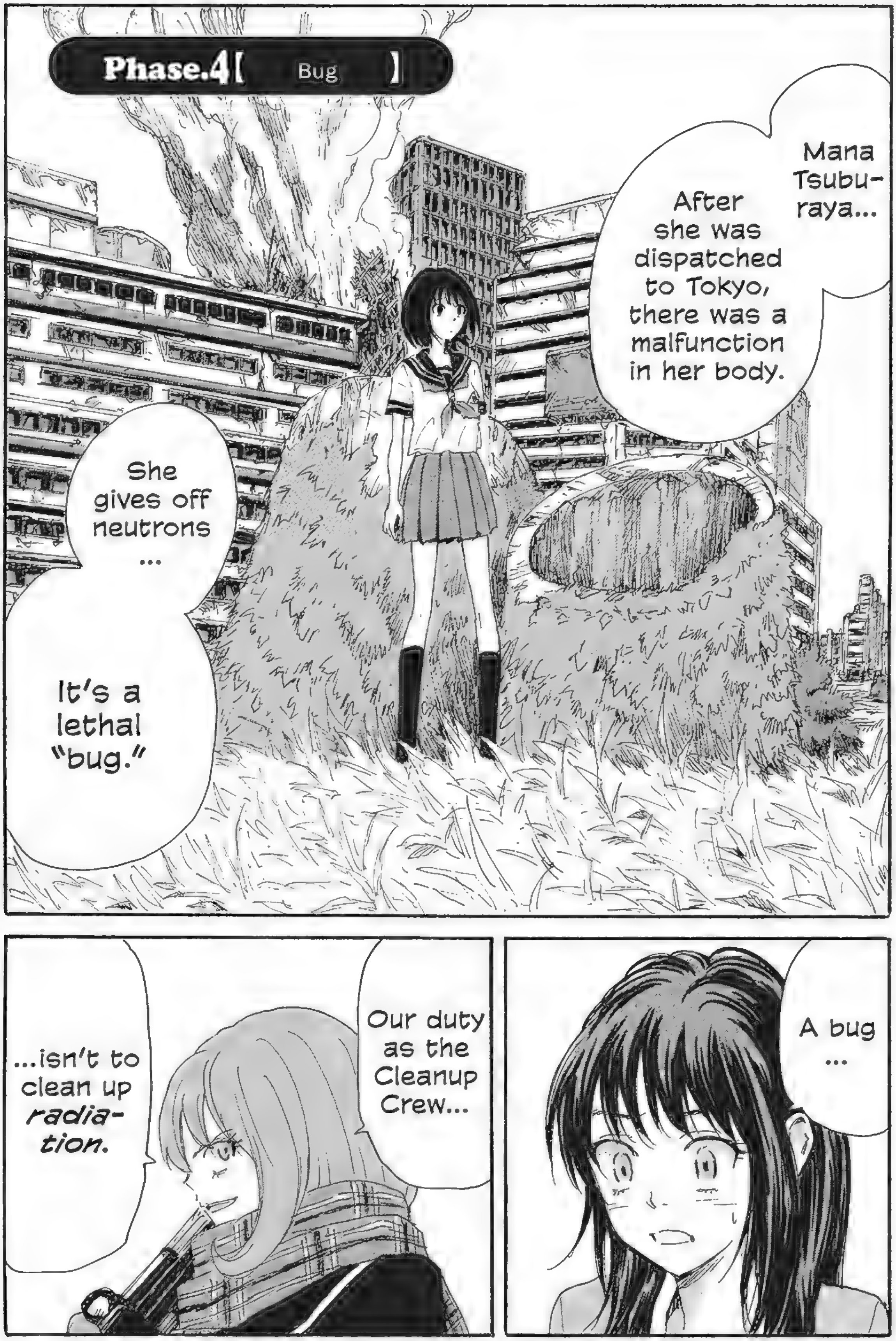

Hmm... in nuclear fission, some of the mass disappears, yeah?
So the part that disappears is what turns into energy, right?
Yes, it's the law of conservation of mass.
E=mc²
???
The theory of relativity says that mass and energy are transmutable.
Wait...
Are you sayin' *that's* the energy Mana Tsuburaya hurled at us?!
But...
That would mean that nuclear fission's takin' place *inside Mana Tsuburaya's body!*
...
This is some serious shit.

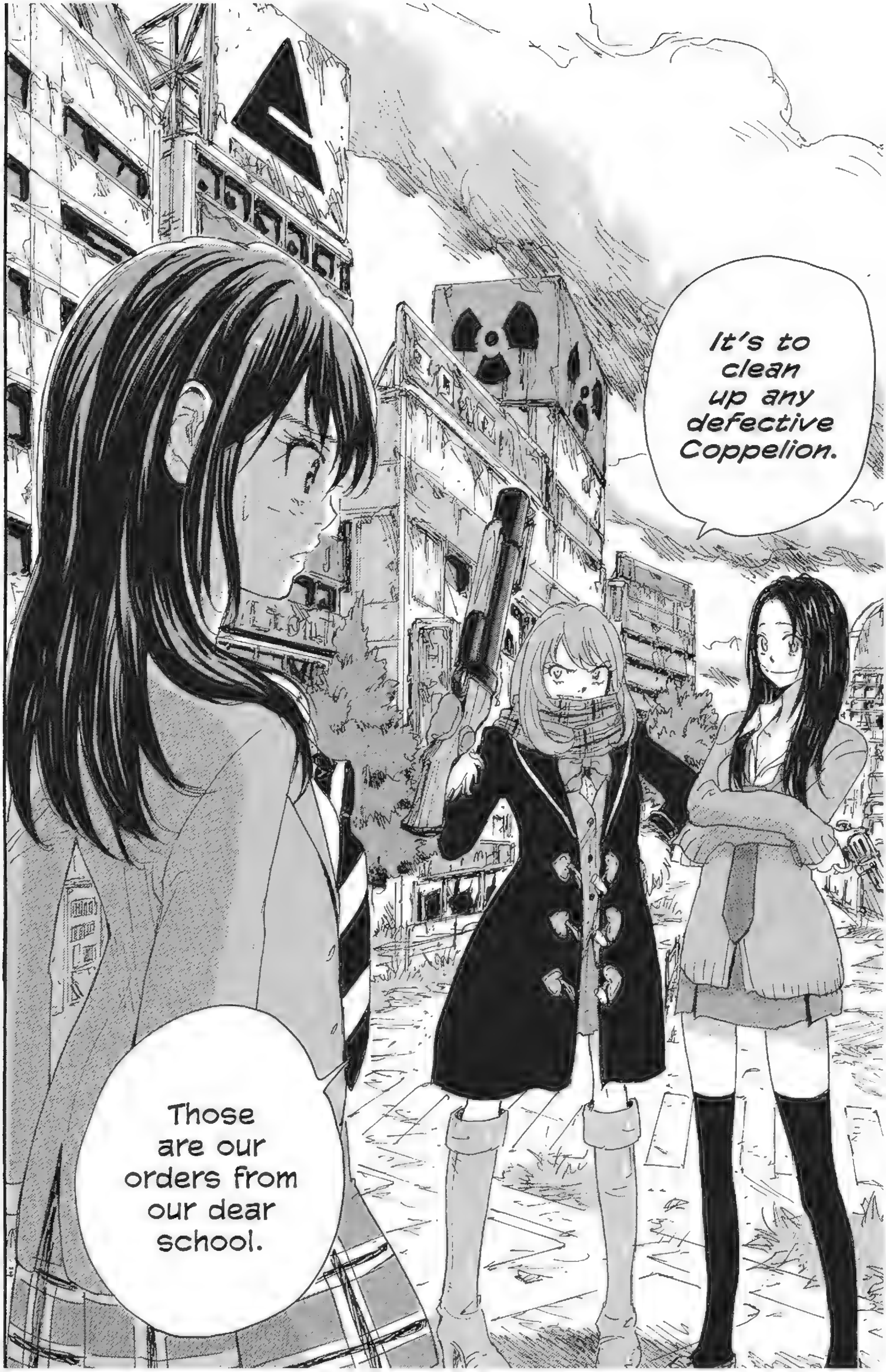

She may as well be a walking nuclear reactor!
PLUCK
ス SNIFF…
北館

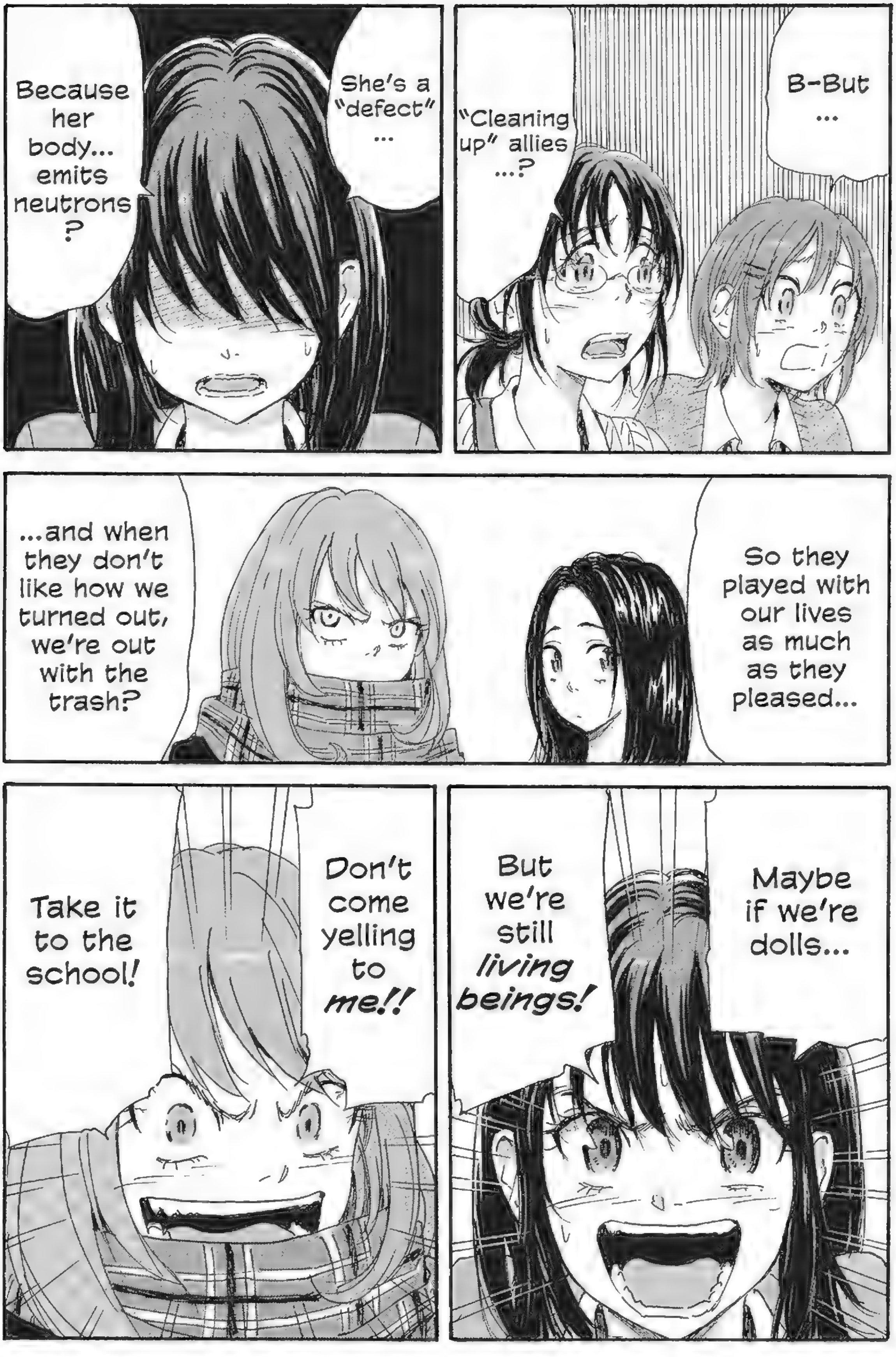

PLOP
PLOP
SWWSH
Well...
SHK
Ain't like we know all the details, but...
Just so happens we've got some free time!
Guess we'll go back to our real job.

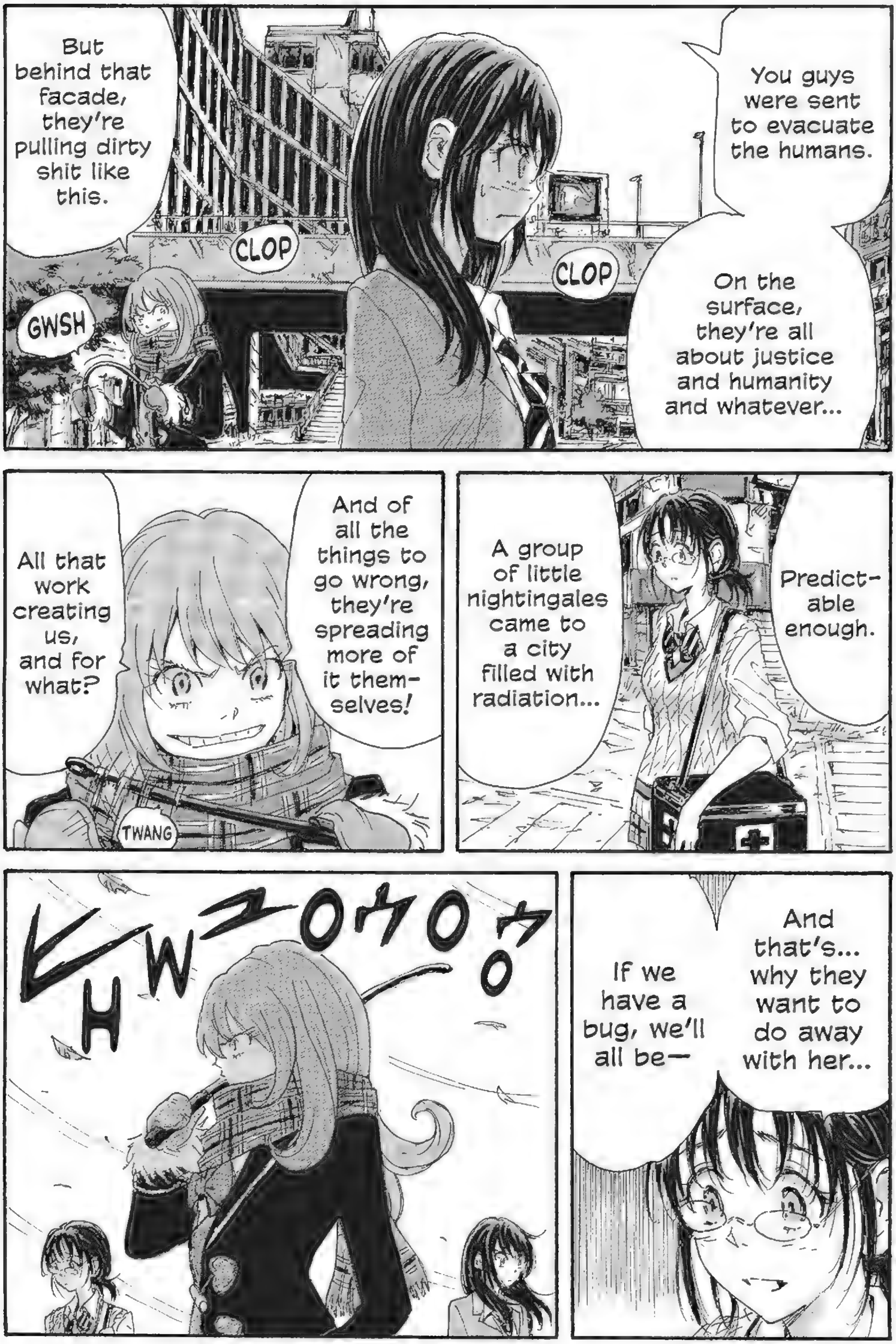

Mana Tsuburaya is a *defective* Coppelion.
What are you on about, Kanon?
Your real job?
KLIK CHK
And our duty as the Cleanup Crew—
Is to *clean up* any defects!
P-3 END

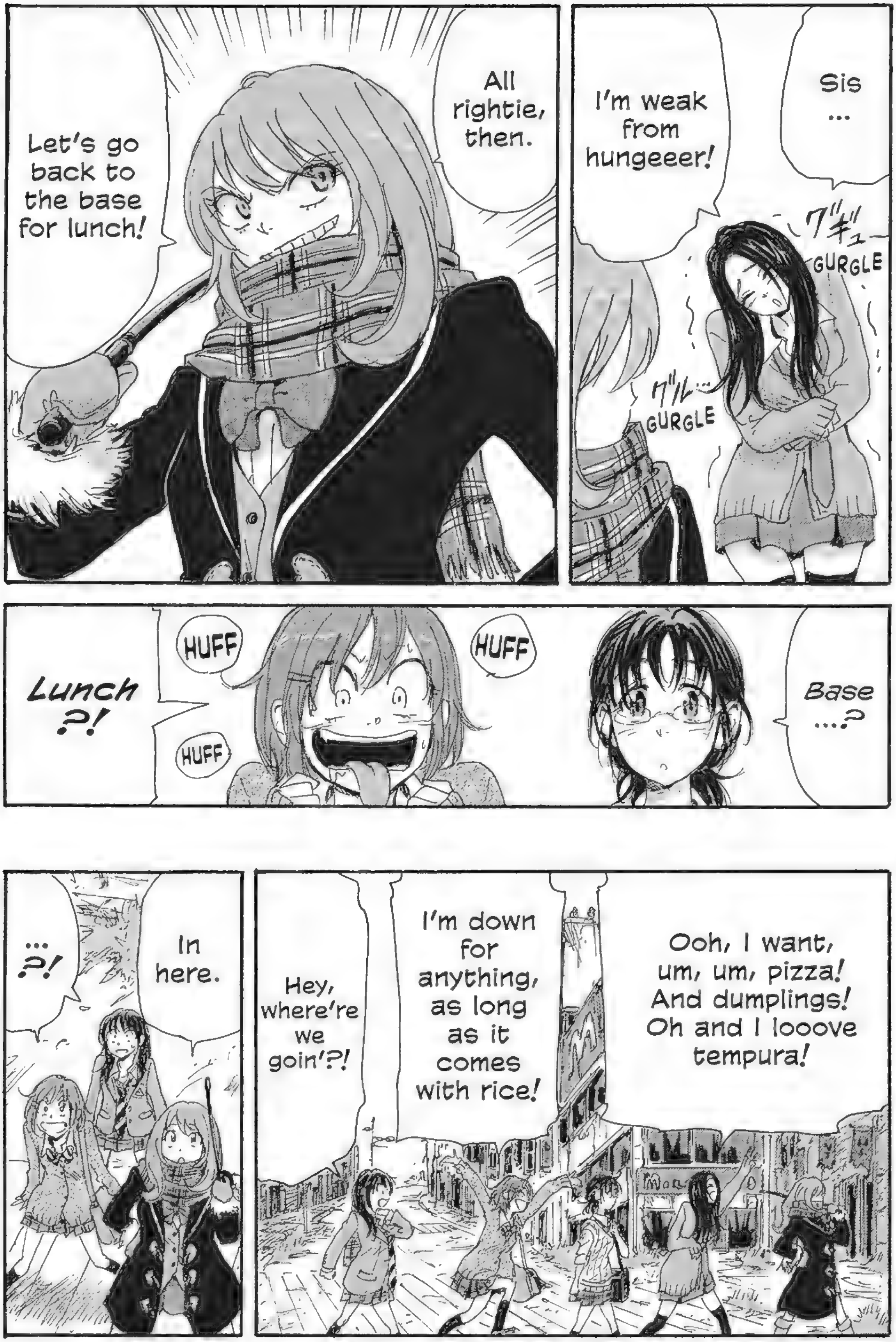
Phase.4【 Bug 】

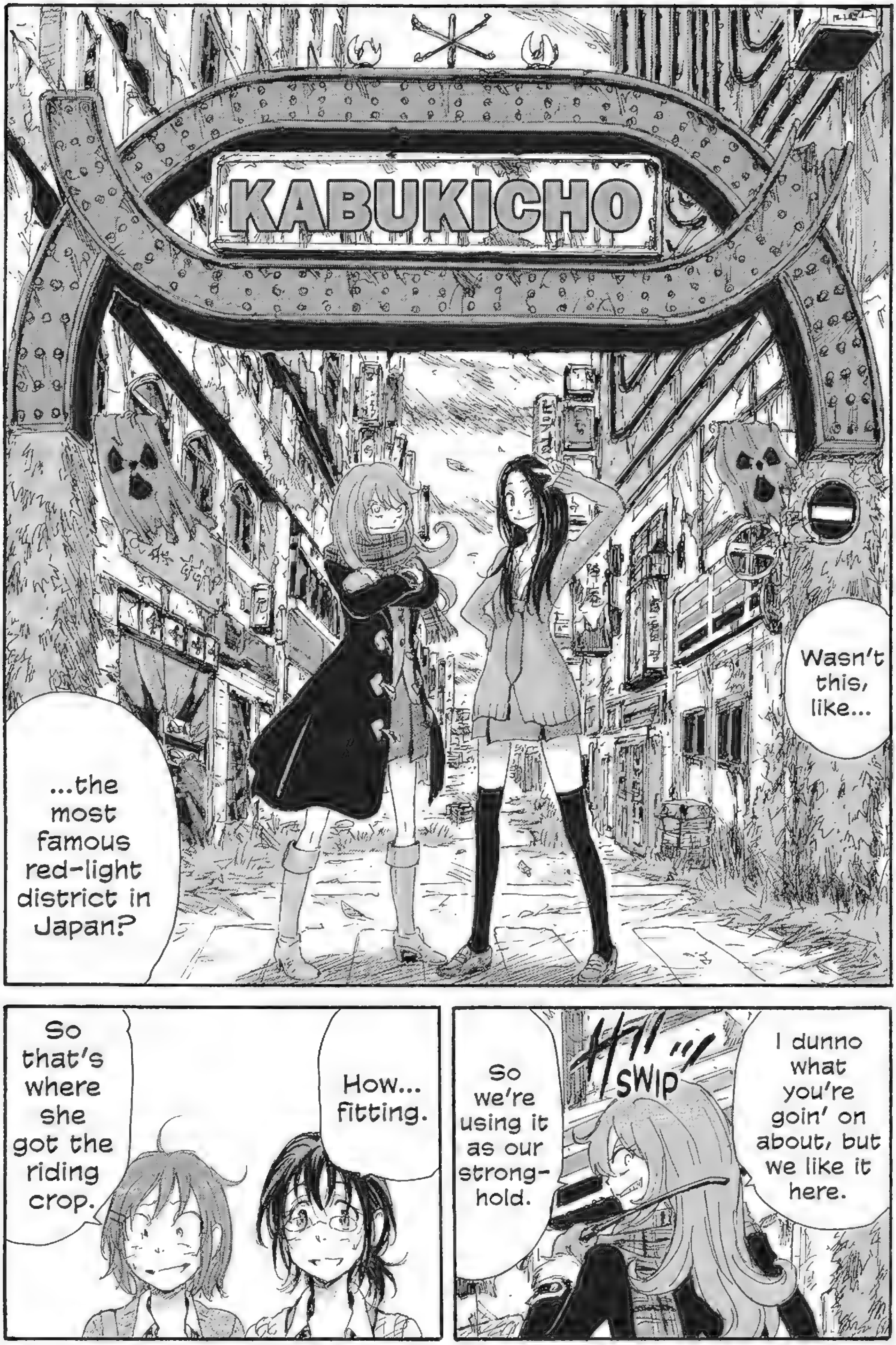

Mana Tsuburaya...
After she was dispatched to Tokyo, there was a malfunction in her body.
She gives off neutrons...
It's a lethal "bug."
A bug...
Our duty as the Cleanup Crew...
...isn't to clean up *radiation.*

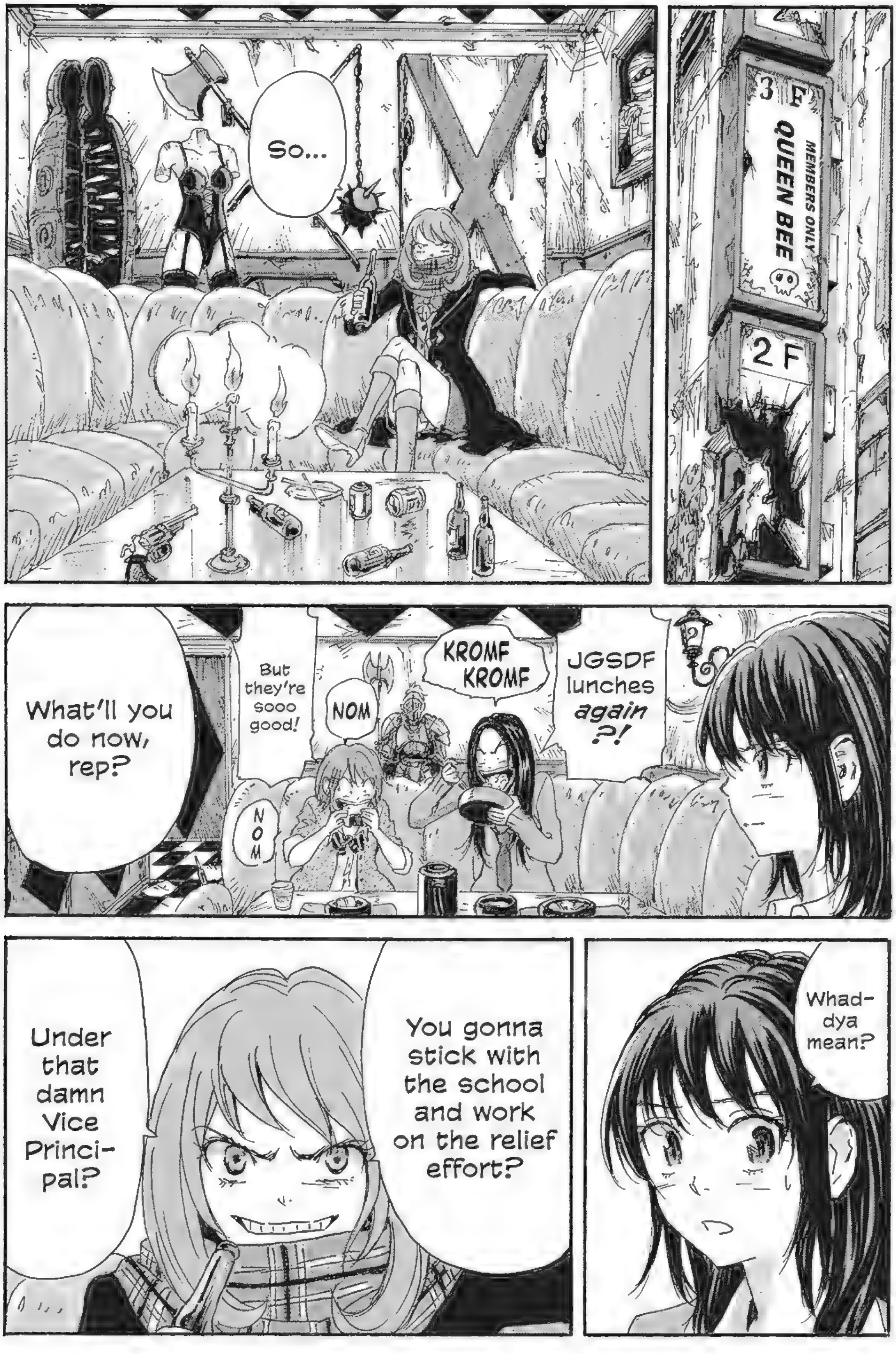

It's to clean up any defective Coppelion.
Those are our orders from our dear school.

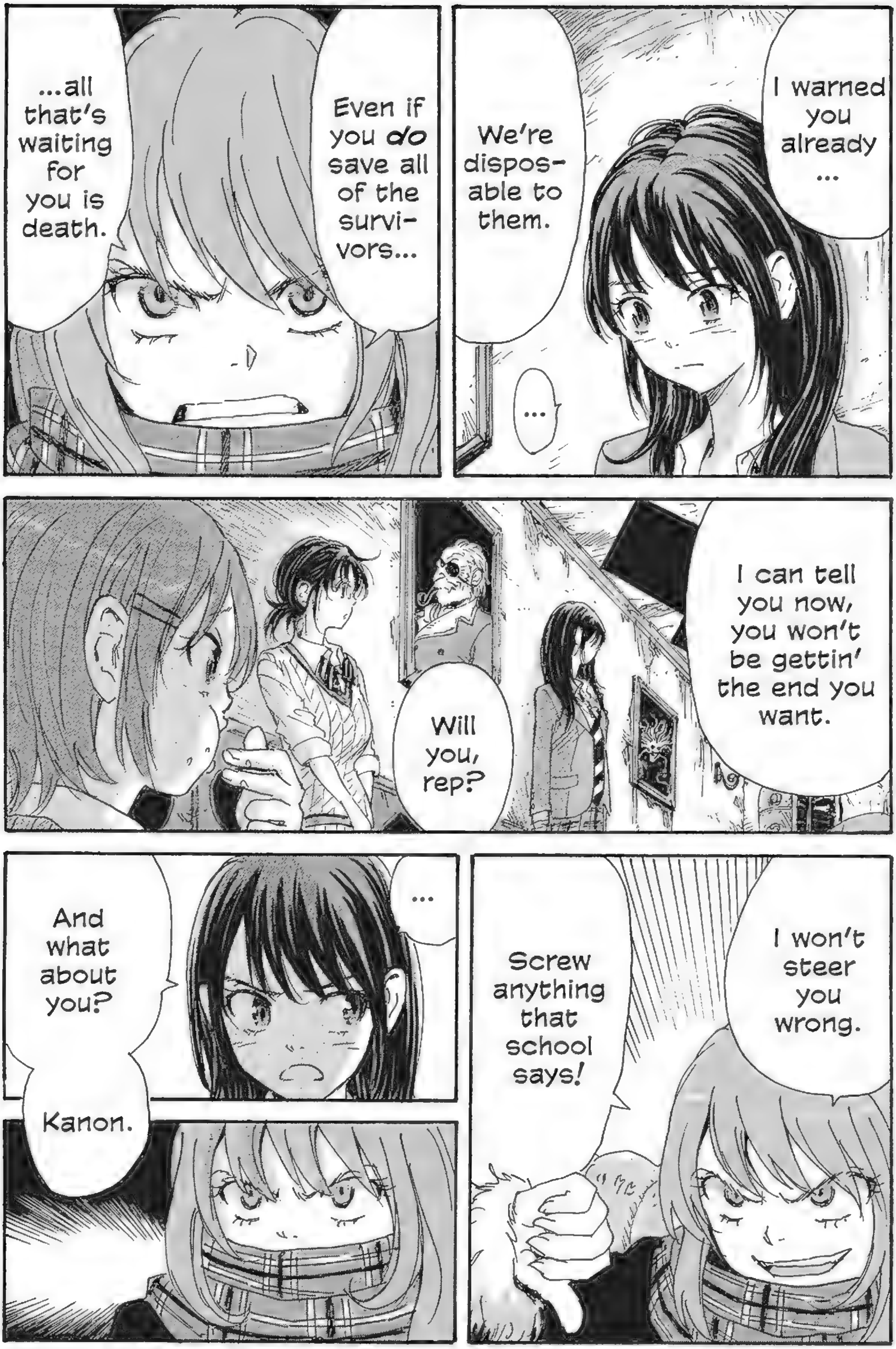

B-But...
"Cleaning up" allies...?
She's a "defect"...
Because her body... emits neutrons?
So they played with our lives as much as they pleased...
...and when they don't like how we turned out, we're out with the trash?
Maybe if we're dolls...
But we're still *living beings!*
Don't come yelling to *me!!*
Take it to the school!

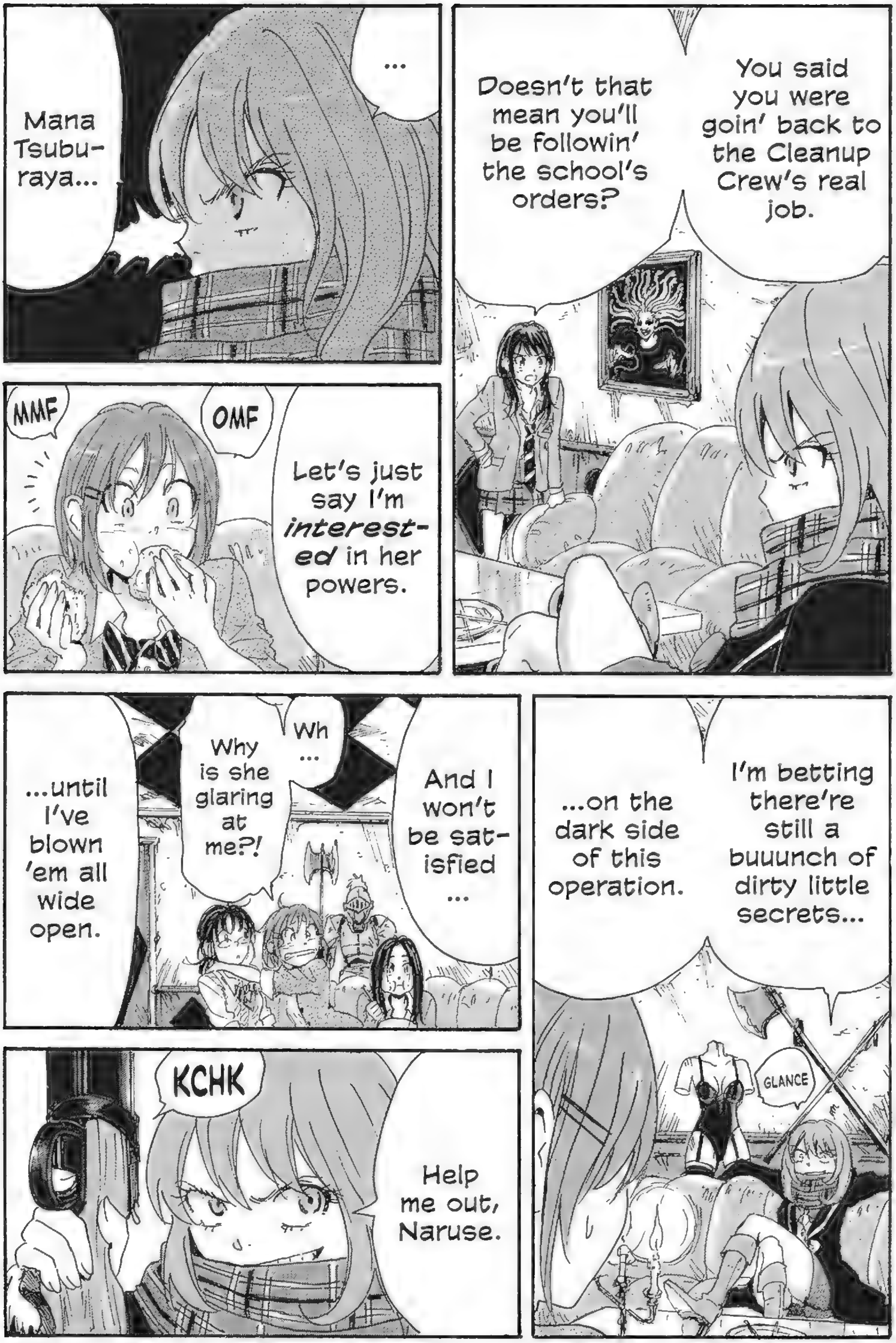

You guys were sent to evacuate the humans.
On the surface, they're all about justice and humanity and whatever...
But behind that facade, they're pulling dirty shit like this.
CLOP
CLOP
GWSH
Predictable enough.
A group of little nightingales came to a city filled with radiation...
And of all the things to go wrong, they're spreading more of it themselves!
All that work creating us, and for what?
TWANG
And that's... why they want to do away with her...
If we have a bug, we'll all be—

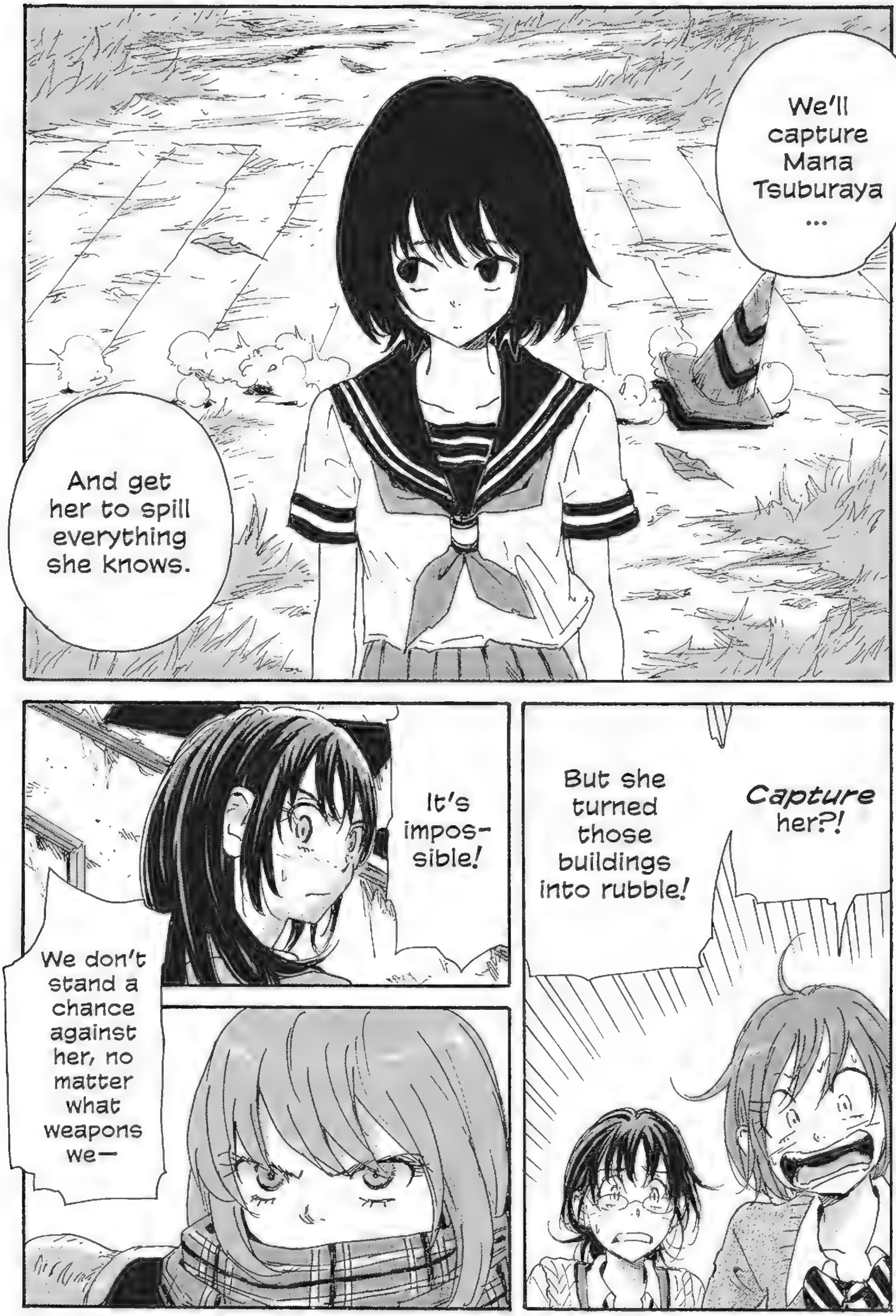

Sis ...
I'm weak from hungeeer!
グギュ GURGLE
グル… GURGLE
All rightie, then.
Let's go back to the base for lunch!
Base ...?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
Lunch ?!
Ooh, I want, um, um, pizza! And dumplings! Oh and I looove tempura!
I'm down for anything, as long as it comes with rice!
Hey, where're we goin'?!
In here.
...?!

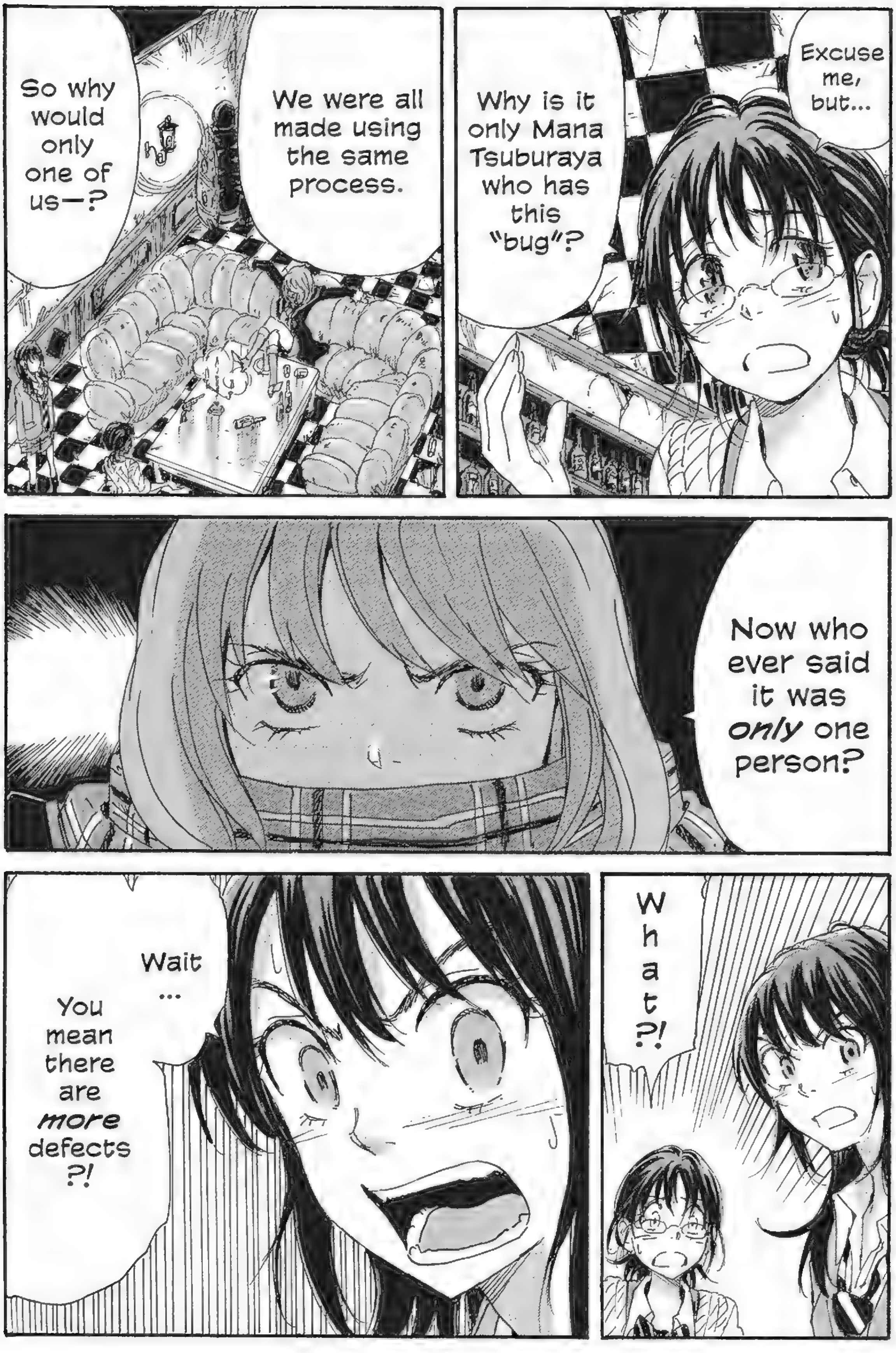

KABUKICHO
Wasn't this, like...
...the most famous red-light district in Japan?
I dunno what you're goin' on about, but we like it here.
SWIP
So we're using it as our stronghold.
How... fitting.
So that's where she got the riding crop.

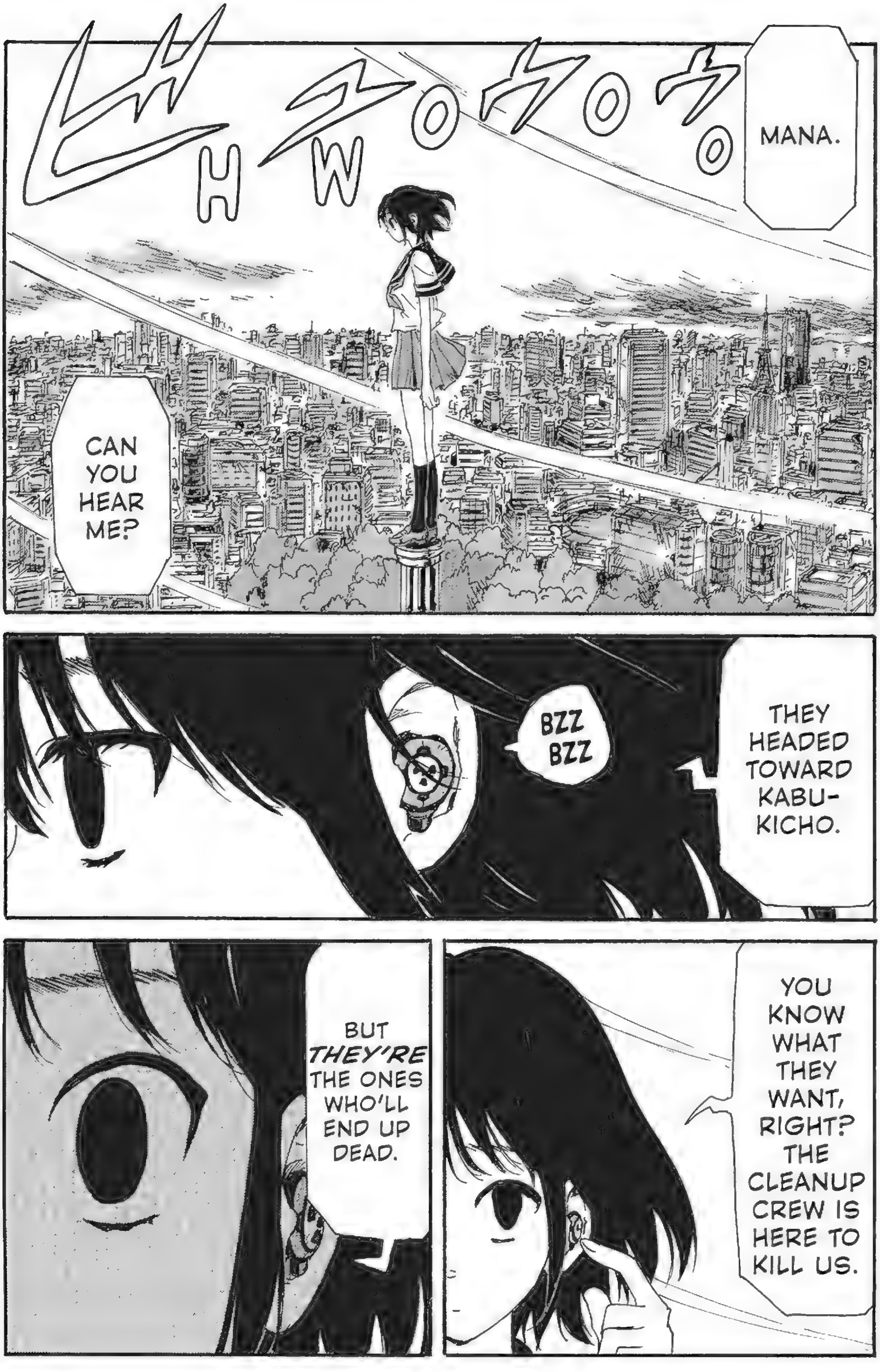

3F
MEMBERS ONLY
QUEEN BEE
2F
So...
JGSDF lunches *again* ?!
KROMF KROMF
NOM
But they're sooo good!
NOM
What'll you do now, rep?
Whad-dya mean?
You gonna stick with the school and work on the relief effort?
Under that damn Vice Principal?

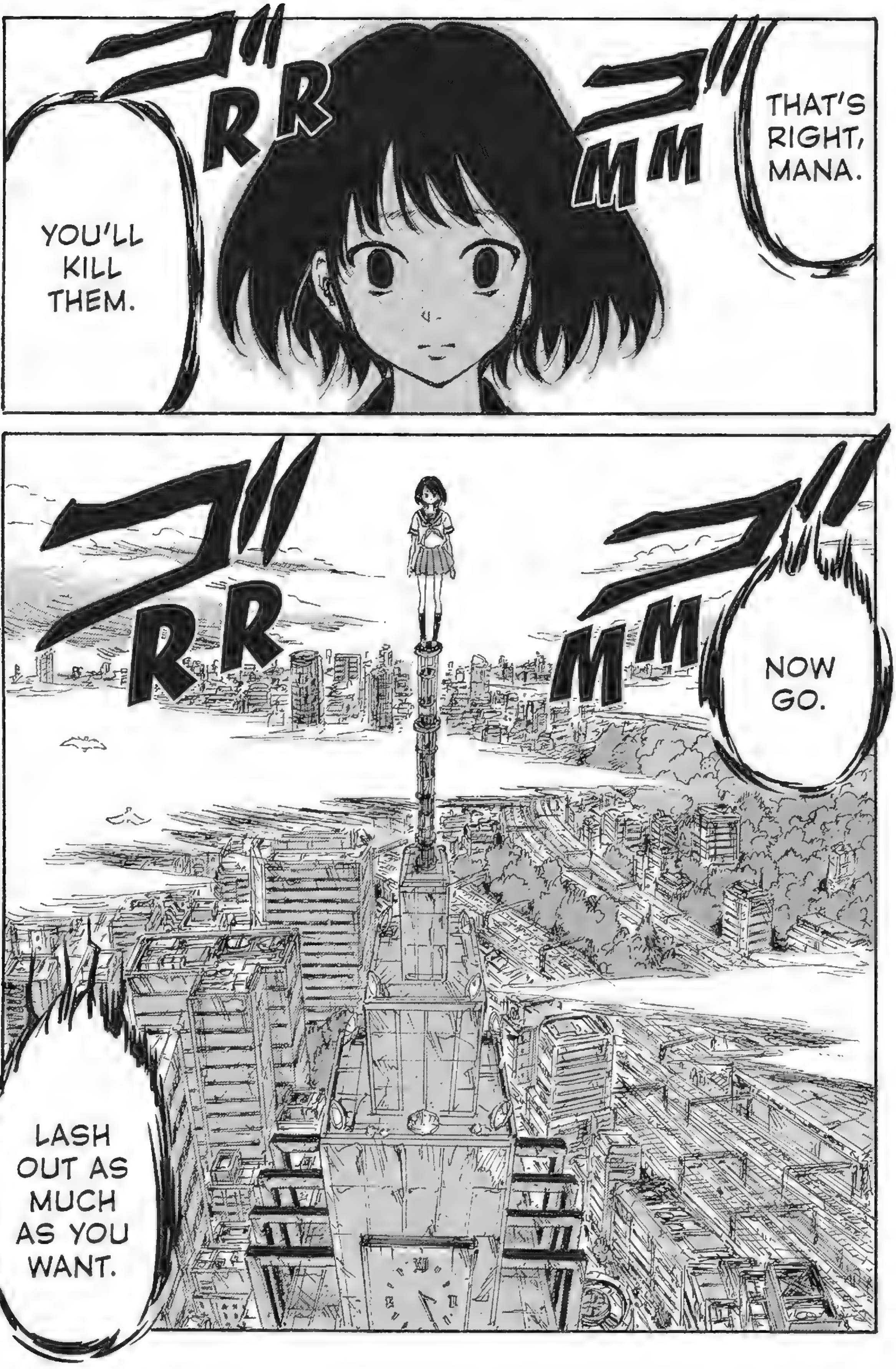

I warned you already ...
We're disposable to them.
...
Even if you *do* save all of the survivors...
...all that's waiting for you is death.
I can tell you now, you won't be gettin' the end you want.
Will you, rep?
I won't steer you wrong.
Screw anything that school says!
...
And what about you?
Kanon.

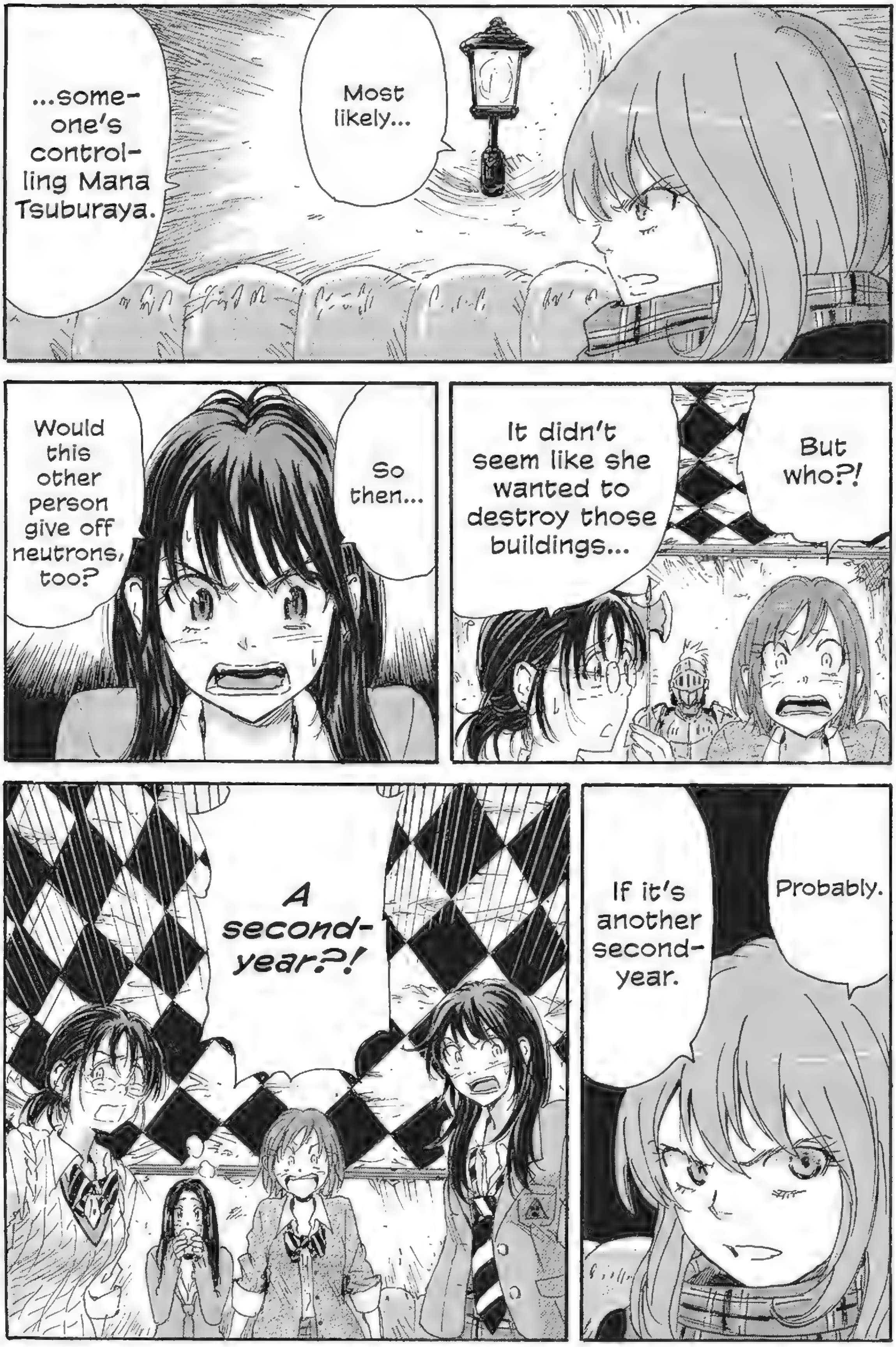

You said you were goin' back to the Cleanup Crew's real job.
Doesn't that mean you'll be followin' the school's orders?
...
Mana Tsuburaya...
Let's just say I'm *interested* in her powers.
OMF
MMF
I'm betting there're still a buuunch of dirty little secrets...
...on the dark side of this operation.
GLANCE
And I won't be satisfied...
Wh...
Why is she glaring at me?!
...until I've blown 'em all wide open.
Help me out, Naruse.
KCHK

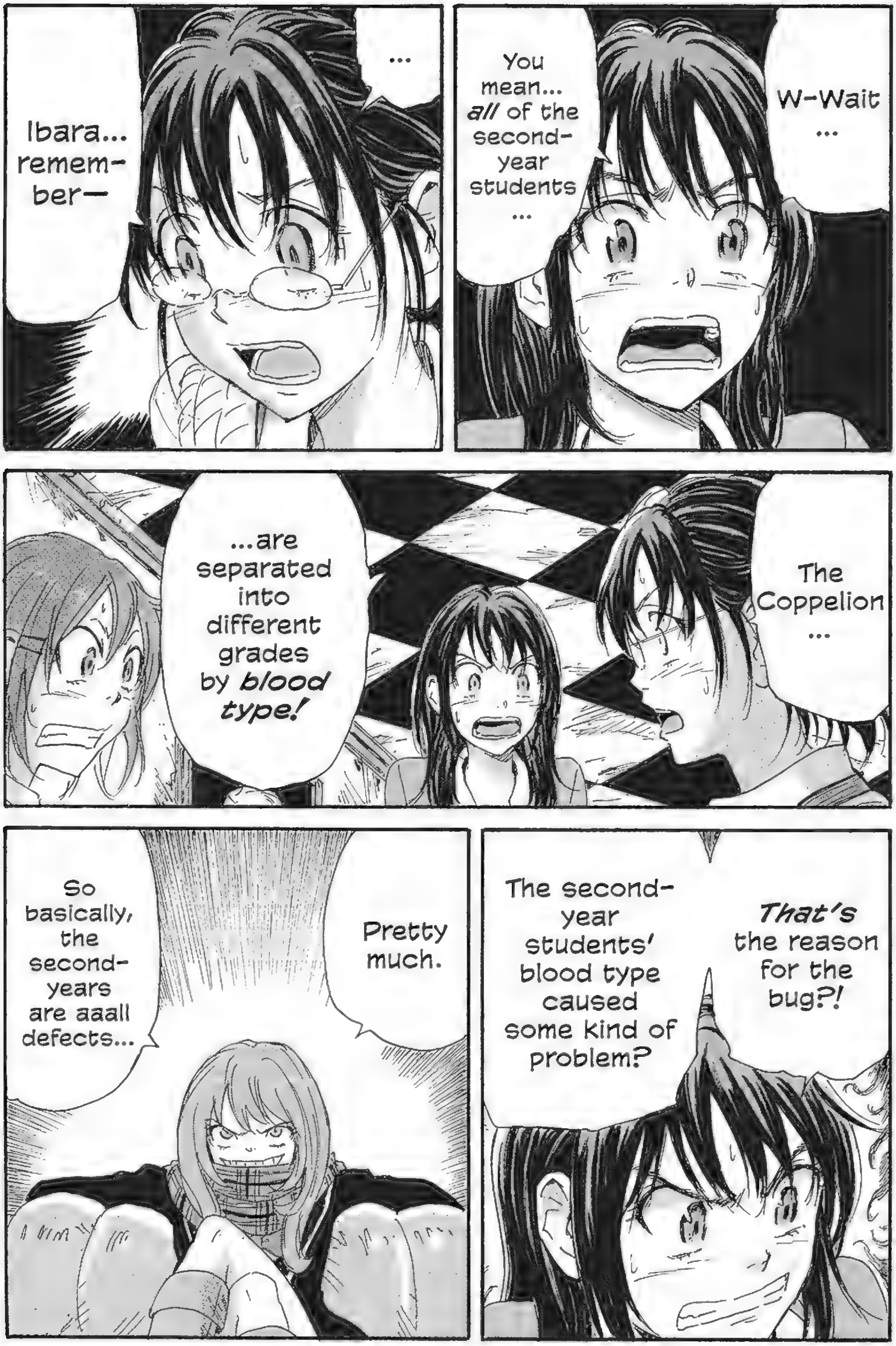

We'll capture Mana Tsuburaya ...
And get her to spill everything she knows.
Capture her?!
But she turned those buildings into rubble!
It's impossible!
We don't stand a chance against her, no matter what weapons we—

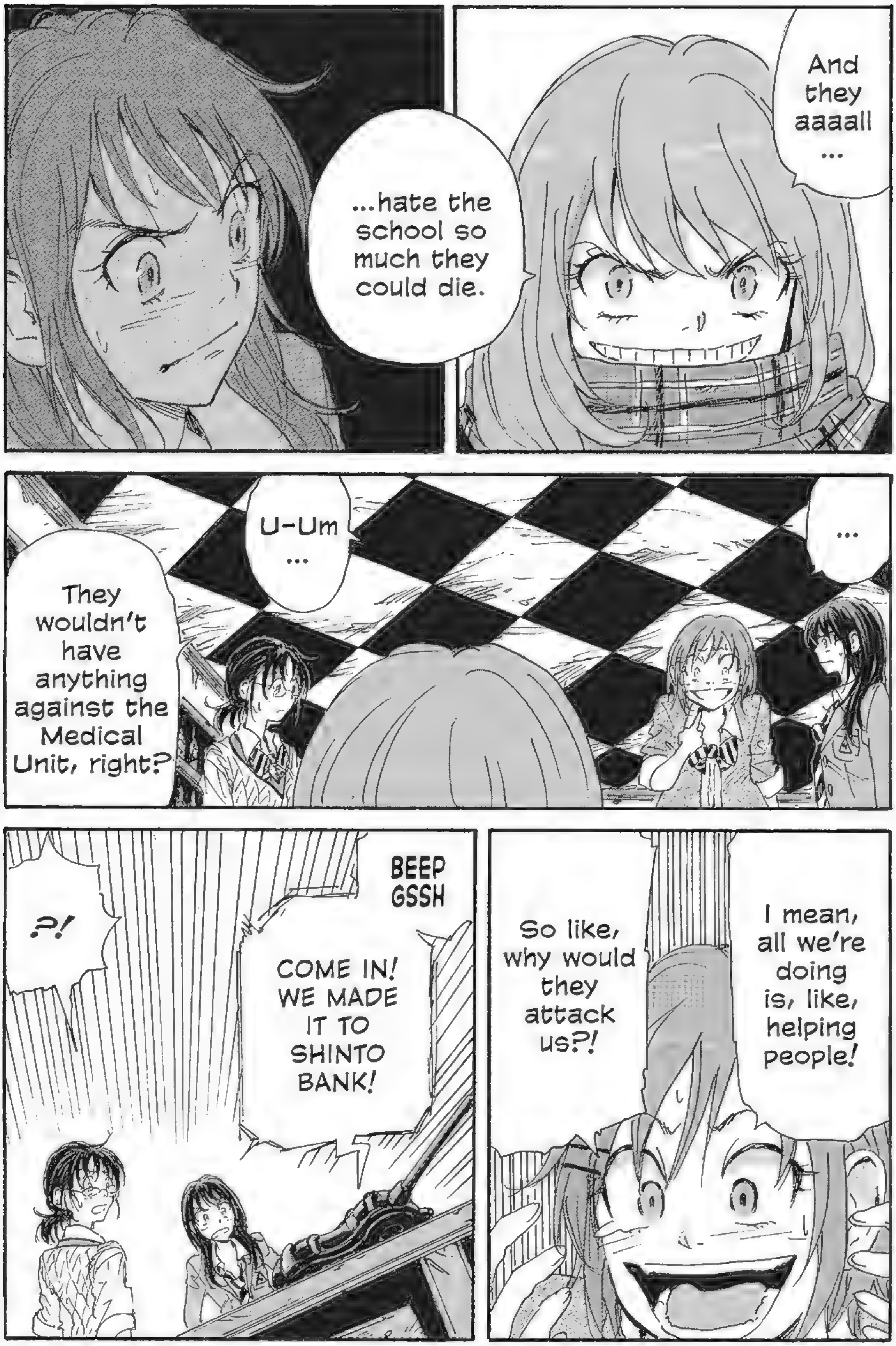

Excuse me, but...
Why is it only Mana Tsuburaya who has this "bug"?
We were all made using the same process.
So why would only one of us—?
Now who ever said it was *only* one person?
What?!
Wait...
You mean there are *more* defects?!

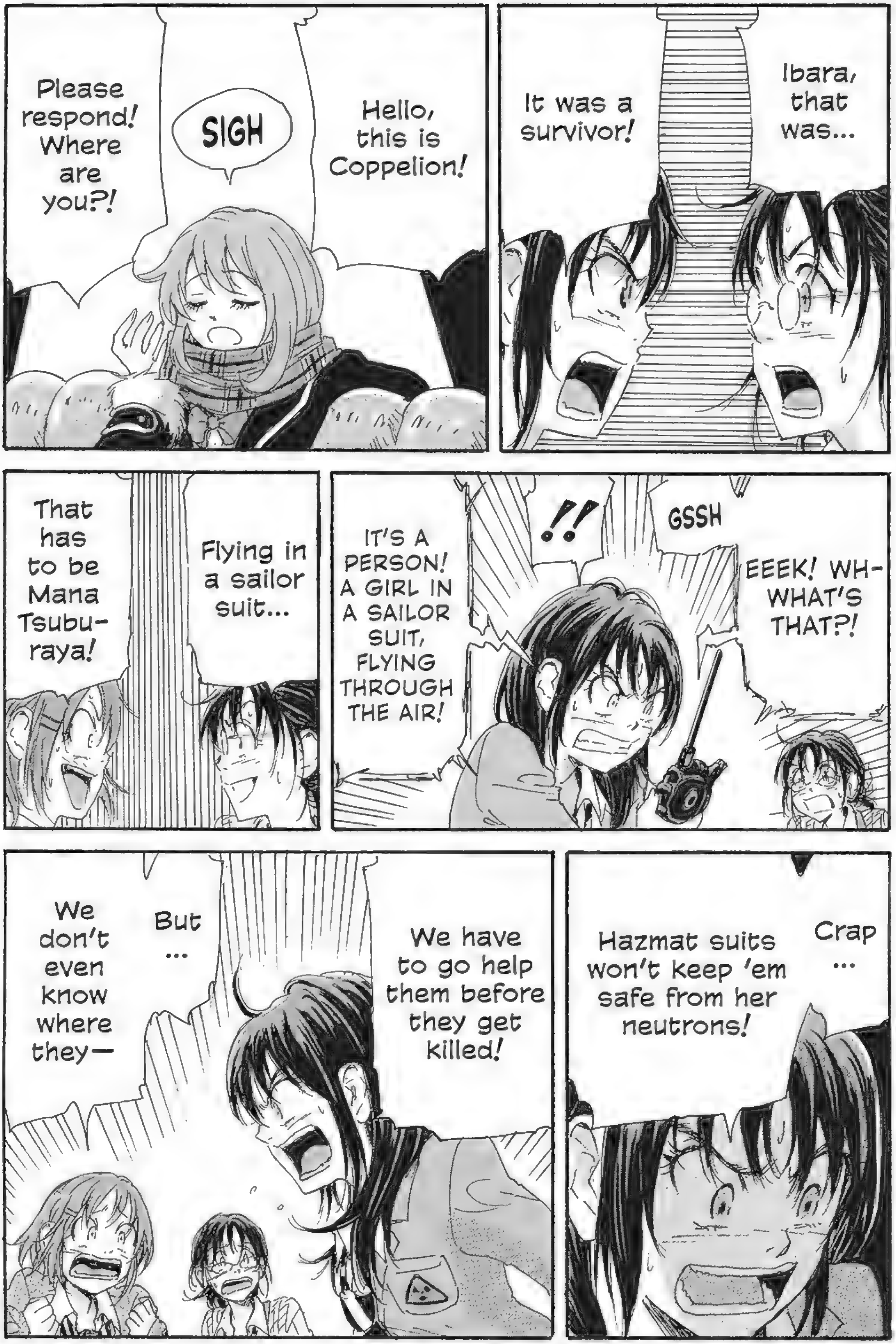

MANA.
HWOOO
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
THEY HEADED TOWARD KABUKICHO.
BZZ BZZ
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY WANT, RIGHT? THE CLEANUP CREW IS HERE TO KILL US.
BUT *THEY'RE* THE ONES WHO'LL END UP DEAD.

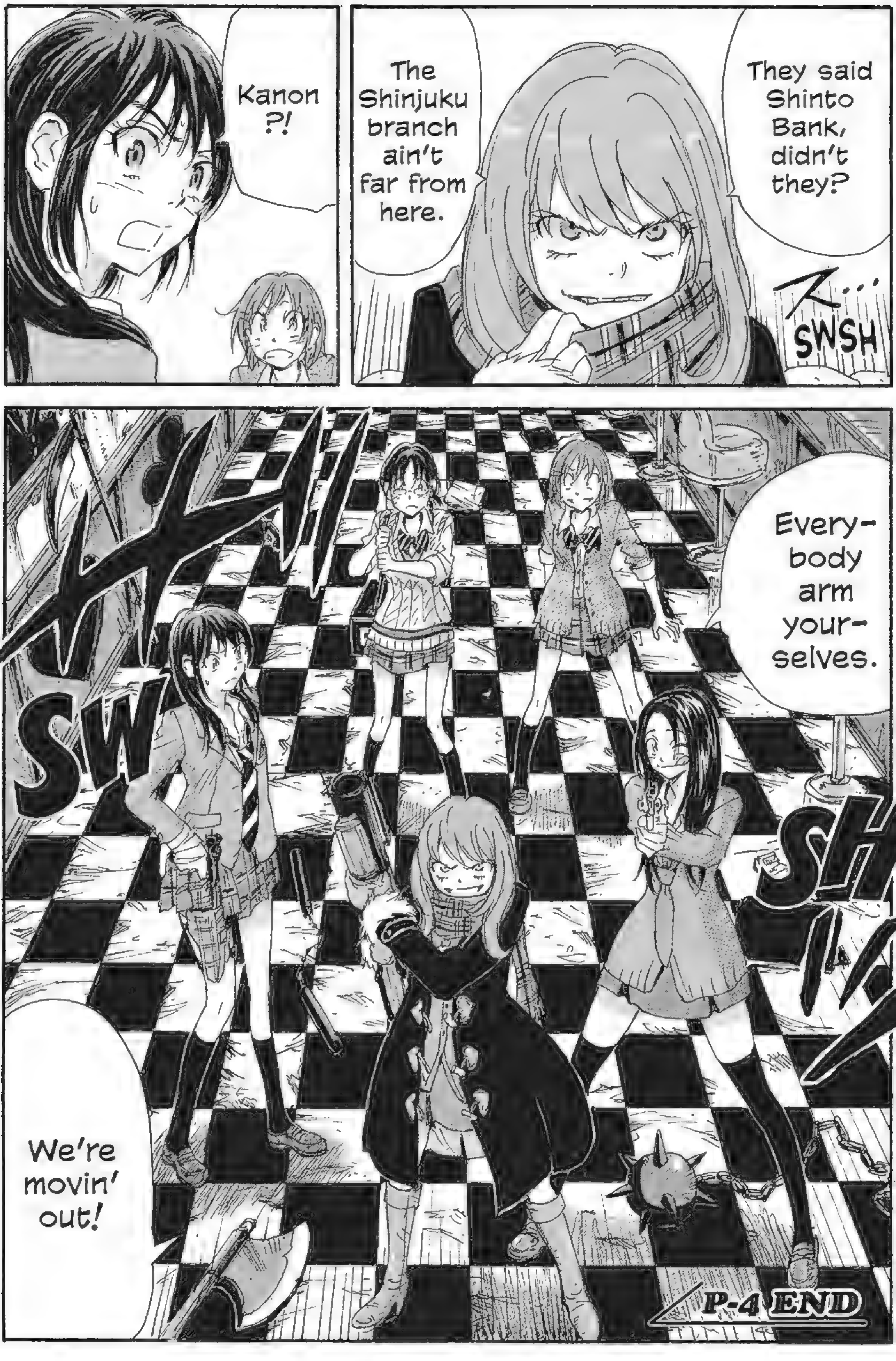

ゴMM
THAT'S RIGHT, MANA.
ゴRR
YOU'LL KILL THEM.
ゴMM
NOW GO.
ゴRR
LASH OUT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.

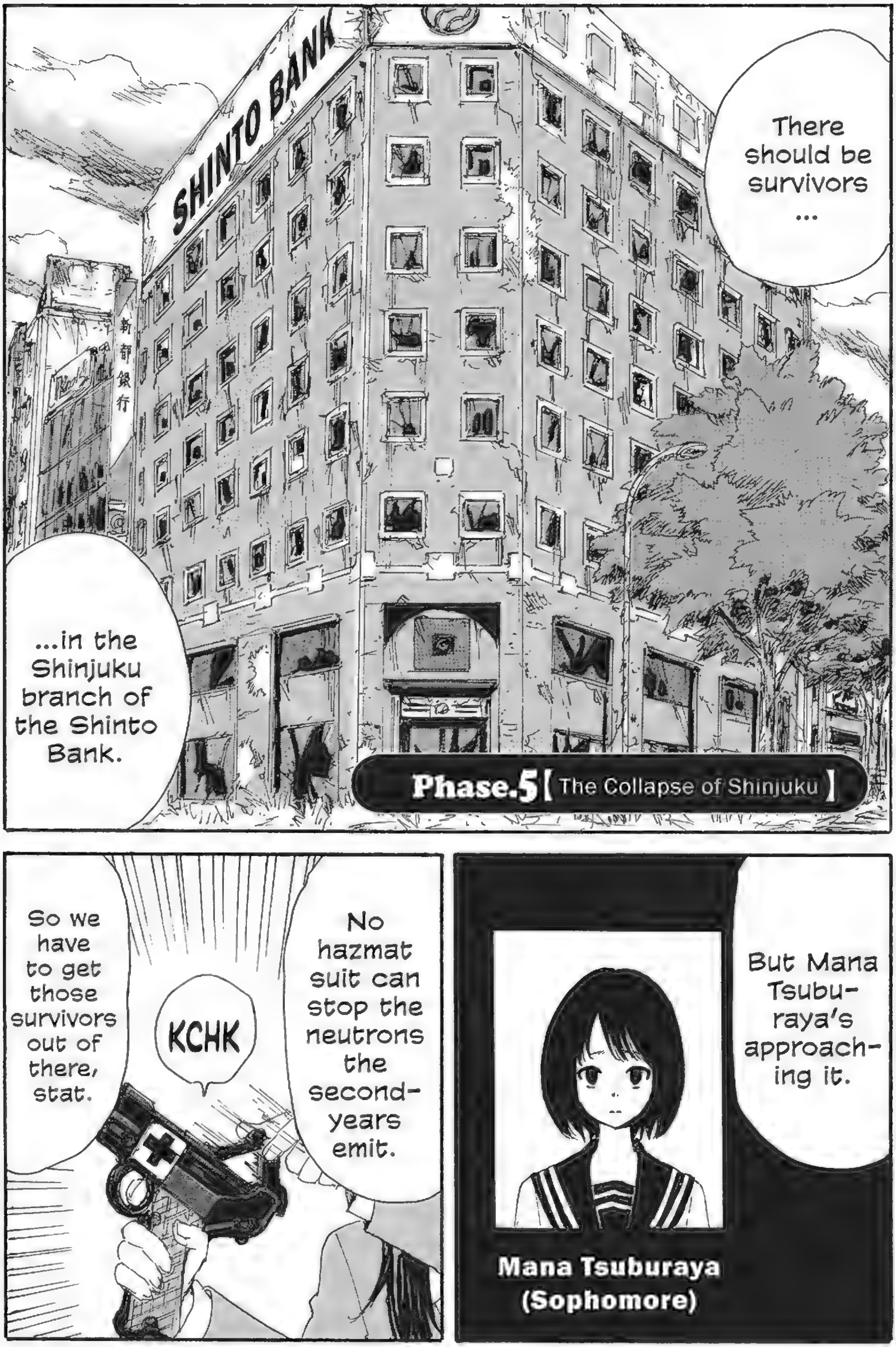

Most likely...
...someone's controlling Mana Tsuburaya.
But who?!
It didn't seem like she wanted to destroy those buildings...
So then...
Would this other person give off neutrons, too?
Probably.
If it's another second-year.
A second-year?!


W-Wait...
You mean... *all* of the second-year students...
...
Ibara... remember—
The Coppelion...
...are separated into different grades by *blood type!*
That's the reason for the bug?!
The second-year students' blood type caused some kind of problem?
Pretty much.
So basically, the second-years are aaall defects...

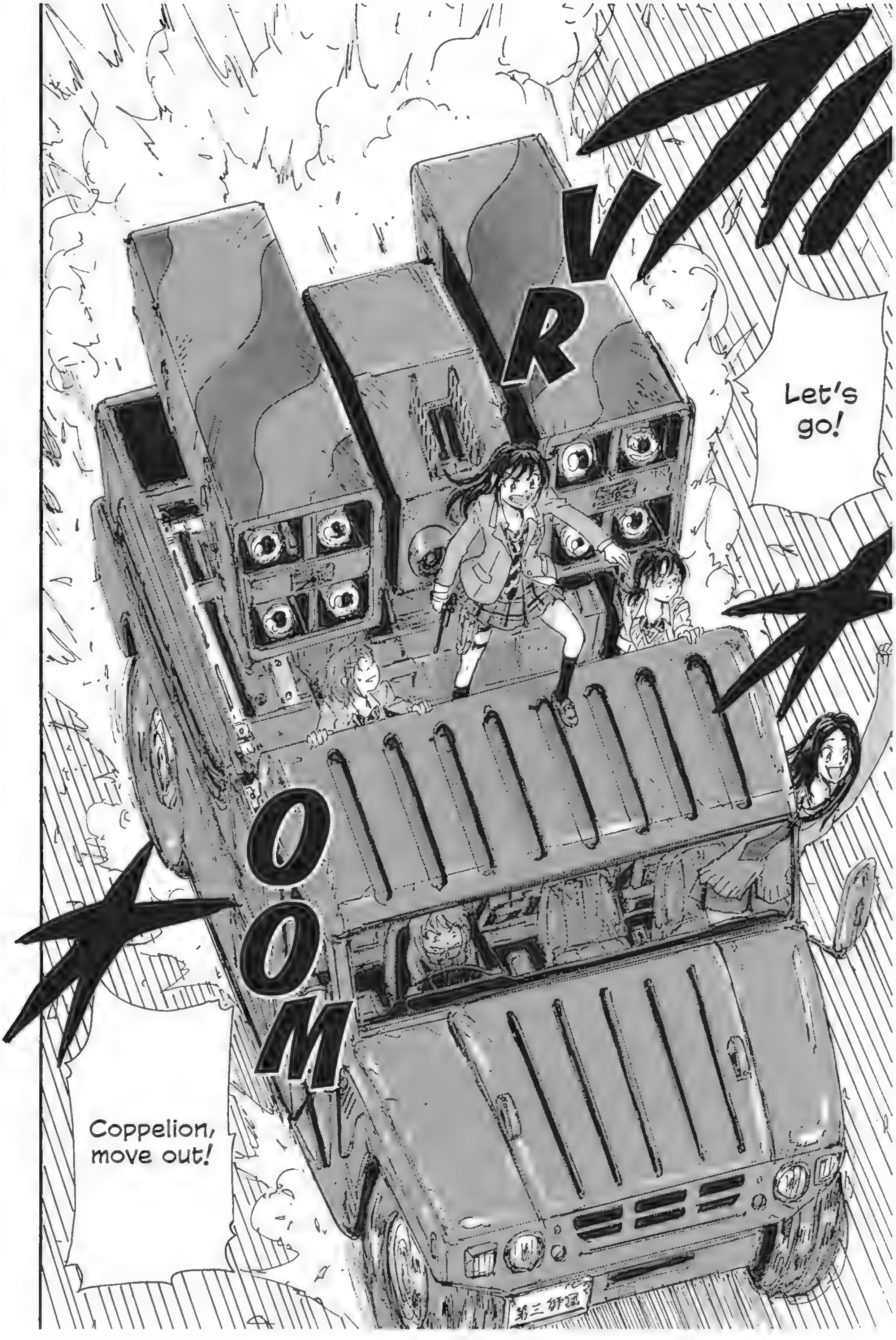

And they aaaall…
…hate the school so much they could die.
…
U-Um…
They wouldn't have anything against the Medical Unit, right?
I mean, all we're doing is, like, helping people!
So like, why would they attack us?!
BEEP GSSH
COME IN! WE MADE IT TO SHINTO BANK!
?!

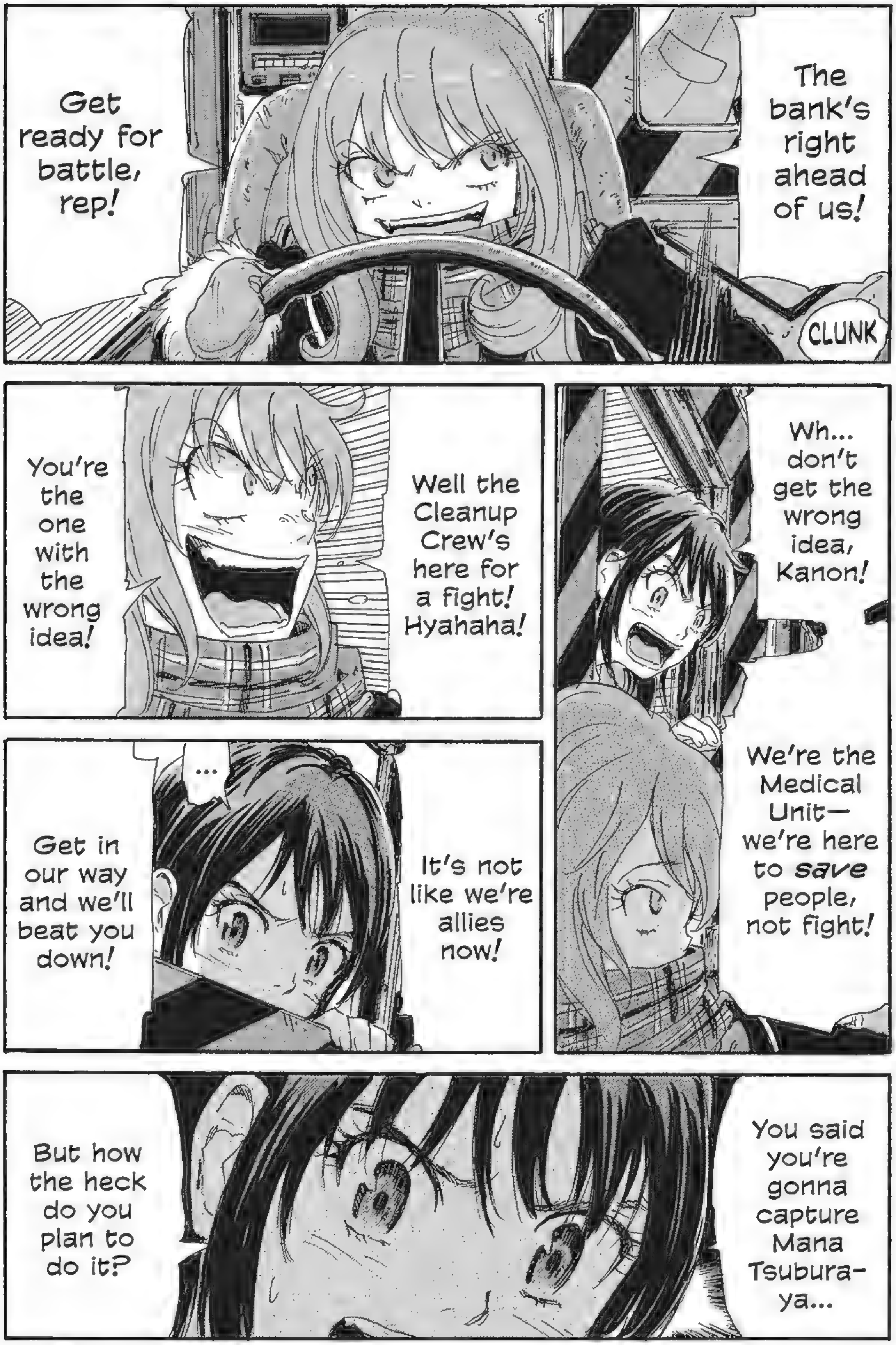

Ibara, that was...
It was a survivor!
Hello, this is Coppelion!
SIGH
Please respond! Where are you?!
EEEK! WH-WHAT'S THAT?!
GSSH
!!
IT'S A PERSON! A GIRL IN A SAILOR SUIT, FLYING THROUGH THE AIR!
Flying in a sailor suit...
That has to be Mana Tsuburaya!
Crap...
Hazmat suits won't keep 'em safe from her neutrons!
We have to go help them before they get killed!
But...
We don't even know where they—

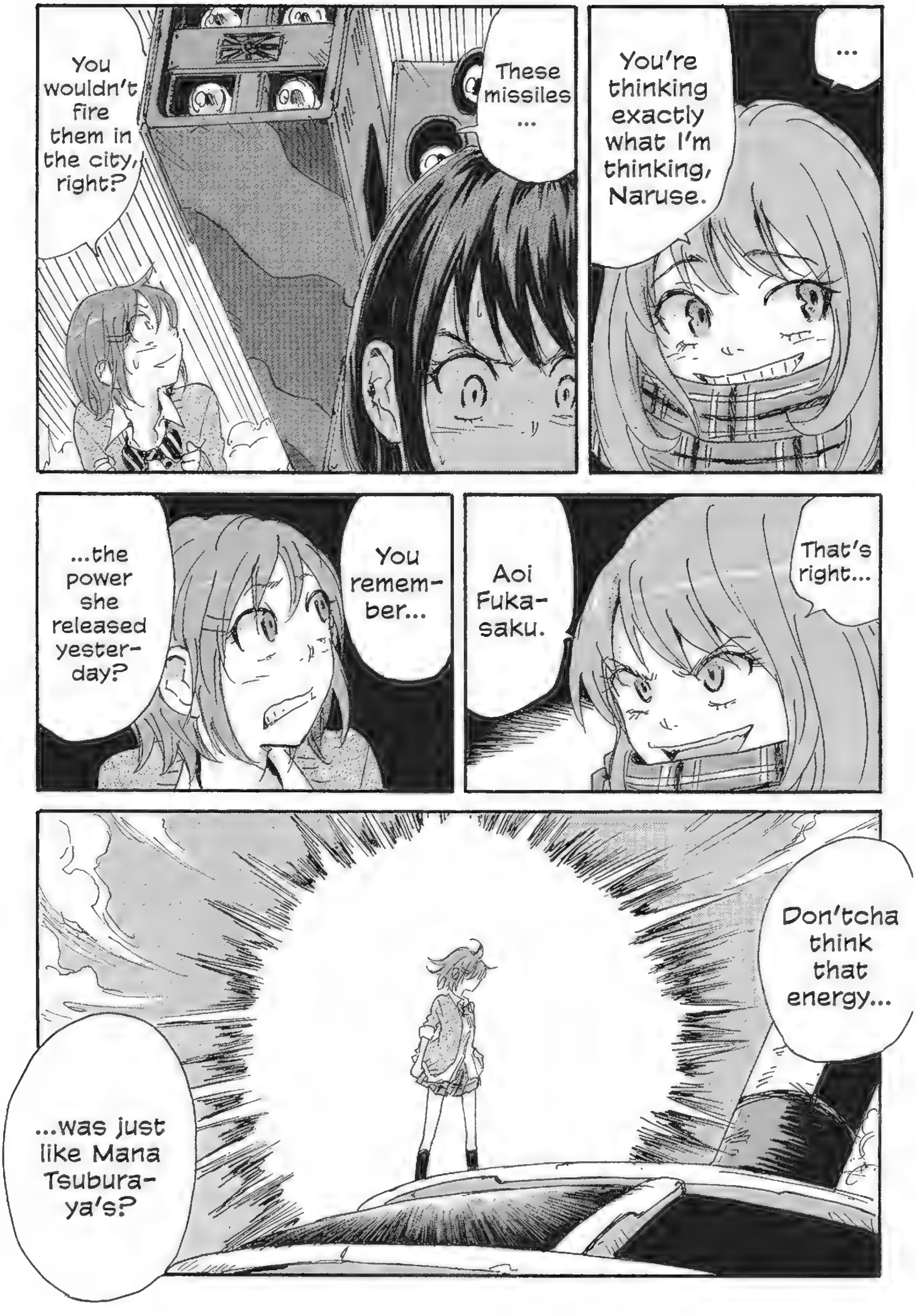

They said Shinto Bank, didn't they?
The Shinjuku branch ain't far from here.
Kanon?!
ス...
SWSH
Everybody arm yourselves.
SW
SH!!
We're movin' out!
P-4 END

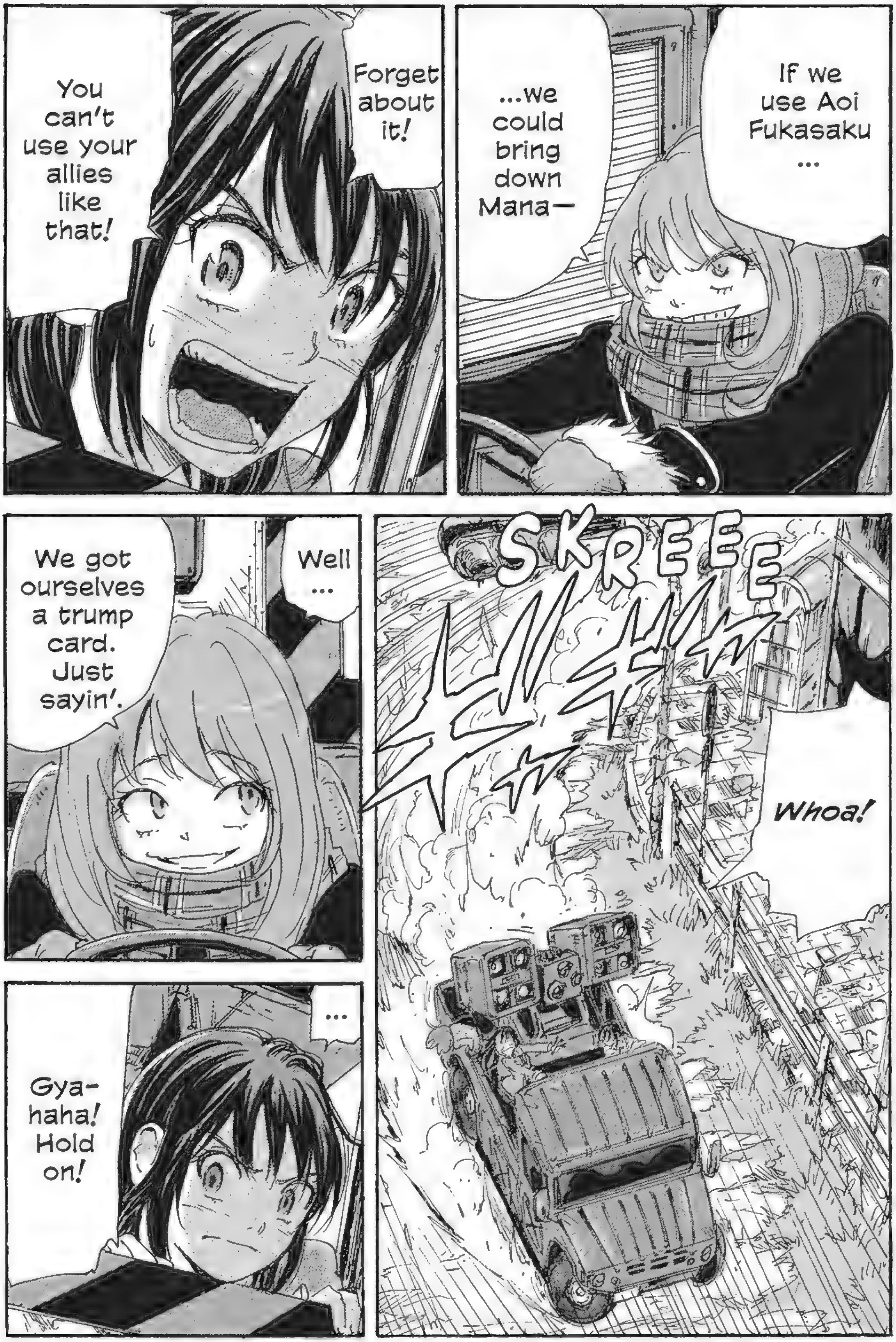

SHINTO BANK
新都銀行
There should be survivors ...
...in the Shinjuku branch of the Shinto Bank.
But Mana Tsuburaya's approaching it.
Mana Tsuburaya (Sophomore)
No hazmat suit can stop the neutrons the second-years emit.
KCHK
So we have to get those survivors out of there, stat.

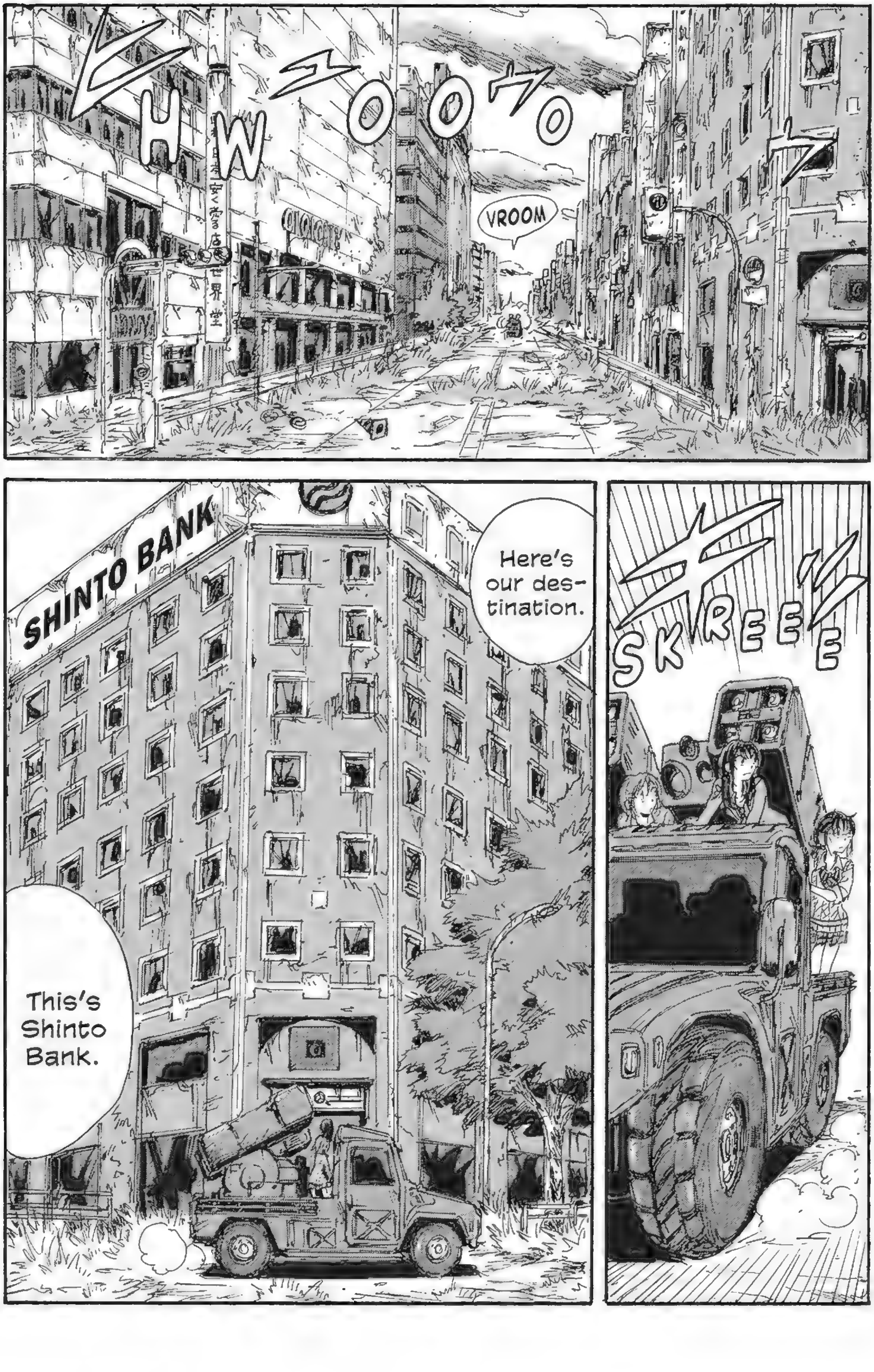
Phase.5 【The Collapse of Shinjuku】

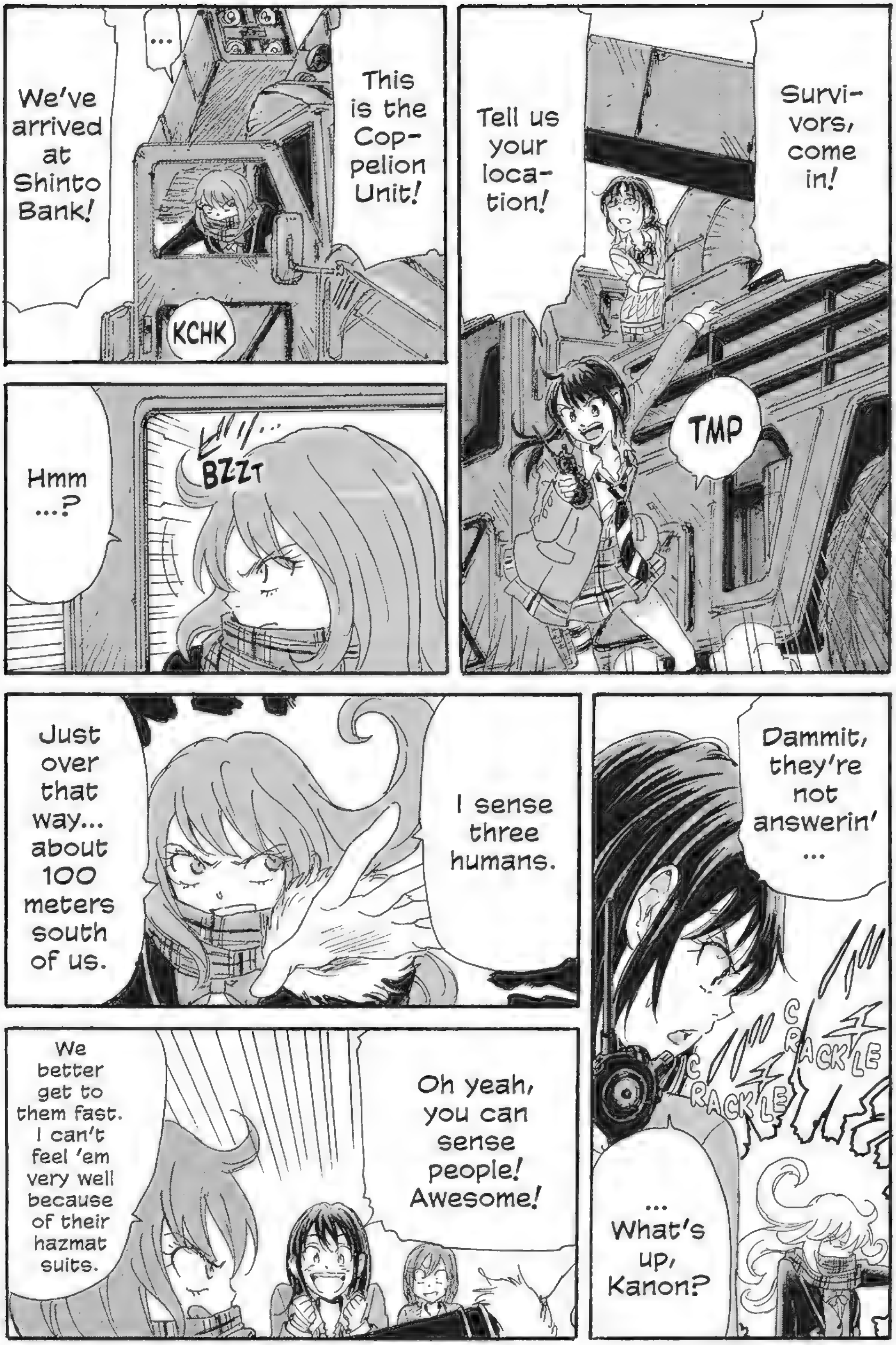

VRROOOM
Let's go!
Coppelion, move out!
第三分区

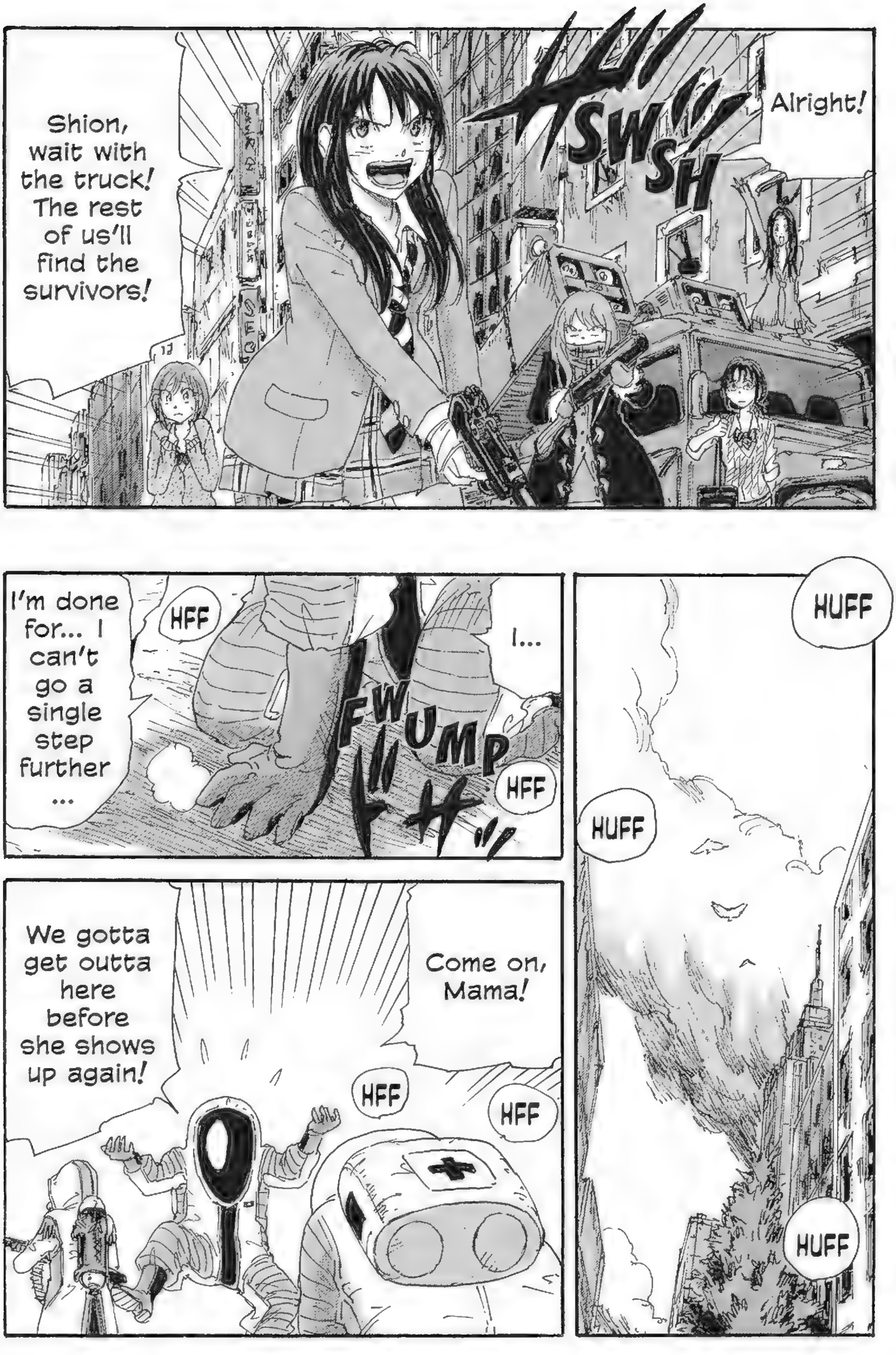

The bank's right ahead of us!
Get ready for battle, rep!
CLUNK
Wh... don't get the wrong idea, Kanon!
We're the Medical Unit—we're here to *save* people, not fight!
Well the Cleanup Crew's here for a fight! Hyahaha!
You're the one with the wrong idea!
...
It's not like we're allies now!
Get in our way and we'll beat you down!
You said you're gonna capture Mana Tsuburaya...
But how the heck do you plan to do it?

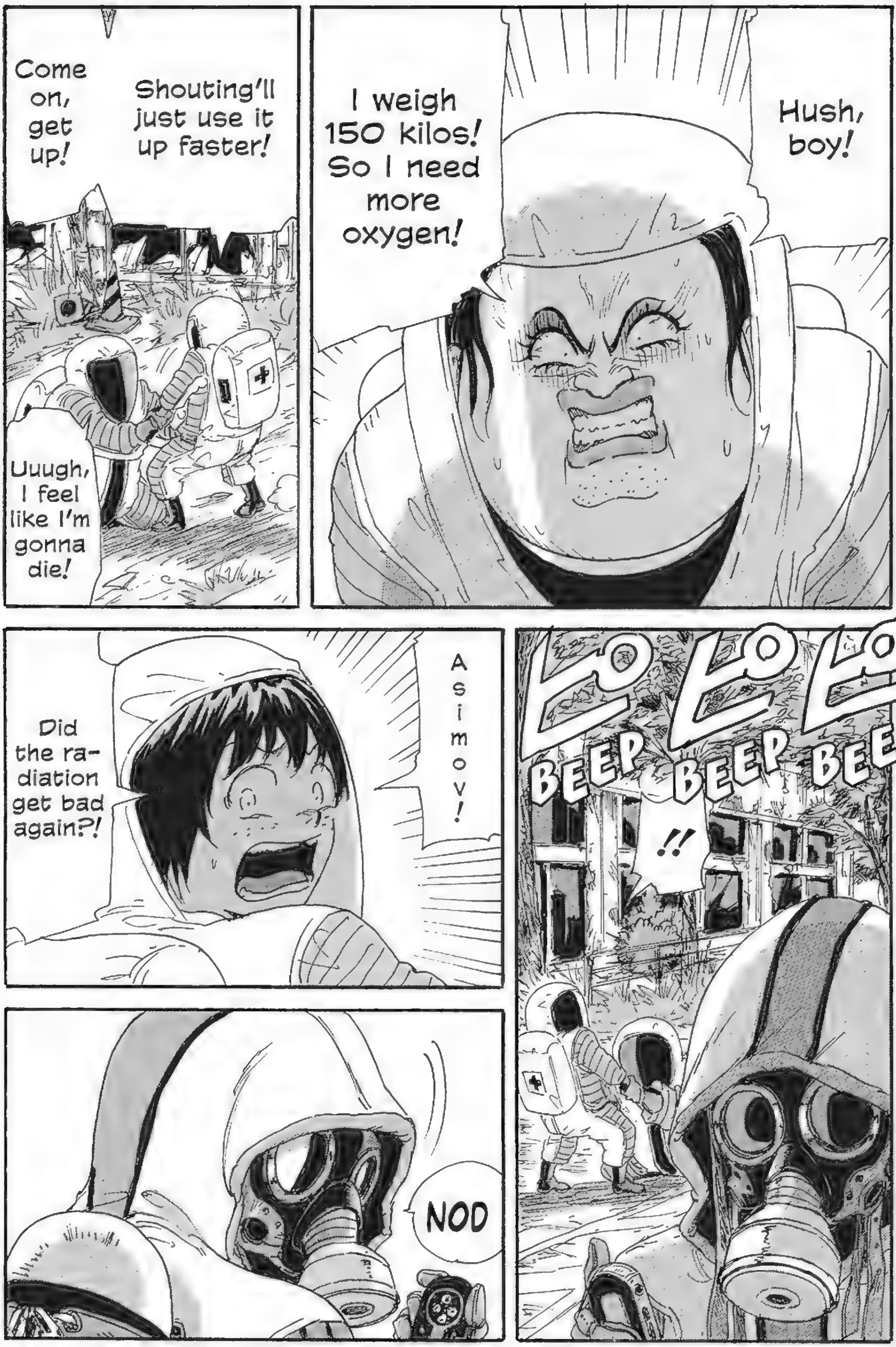

...
You're thinking exactly what I'm thinking, Naruse.
These missiles...
You wouldn't fire them in the city, right?
That's right...
Aoi Fukasaku.
You remember...
...the power she released yesterday?
Don'tcha think that energy...
...was just like Mana Tsuburaya's?

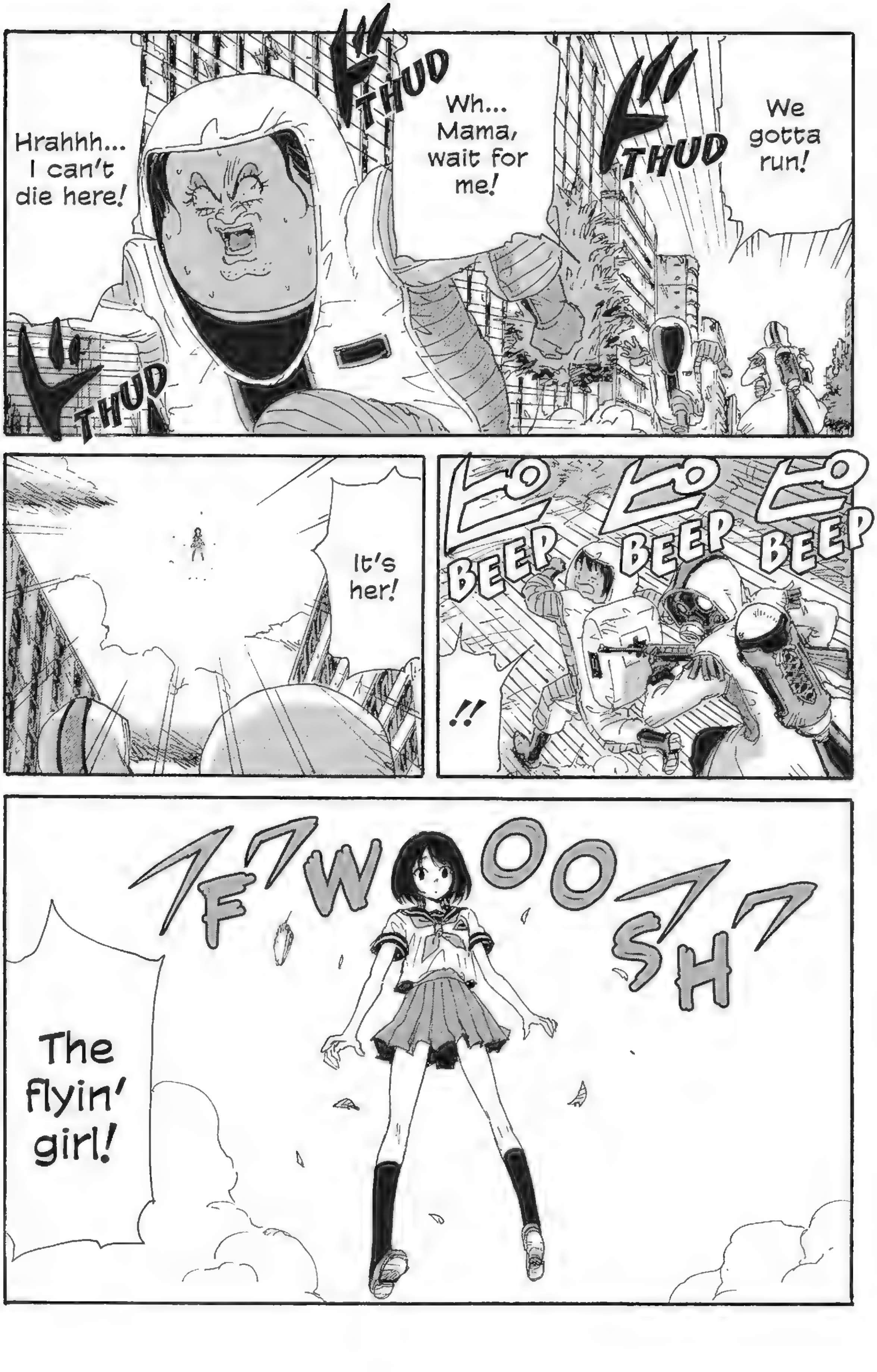

If we use Aoi Fukasaku ...
...we could bring down Mana—
Forget about it!
You can't use your allies like that!
Well ...
We got ourselves a trump card. Just sayin'.
...
Gya-haha! Hold on!
SKREEEE
Whoa!

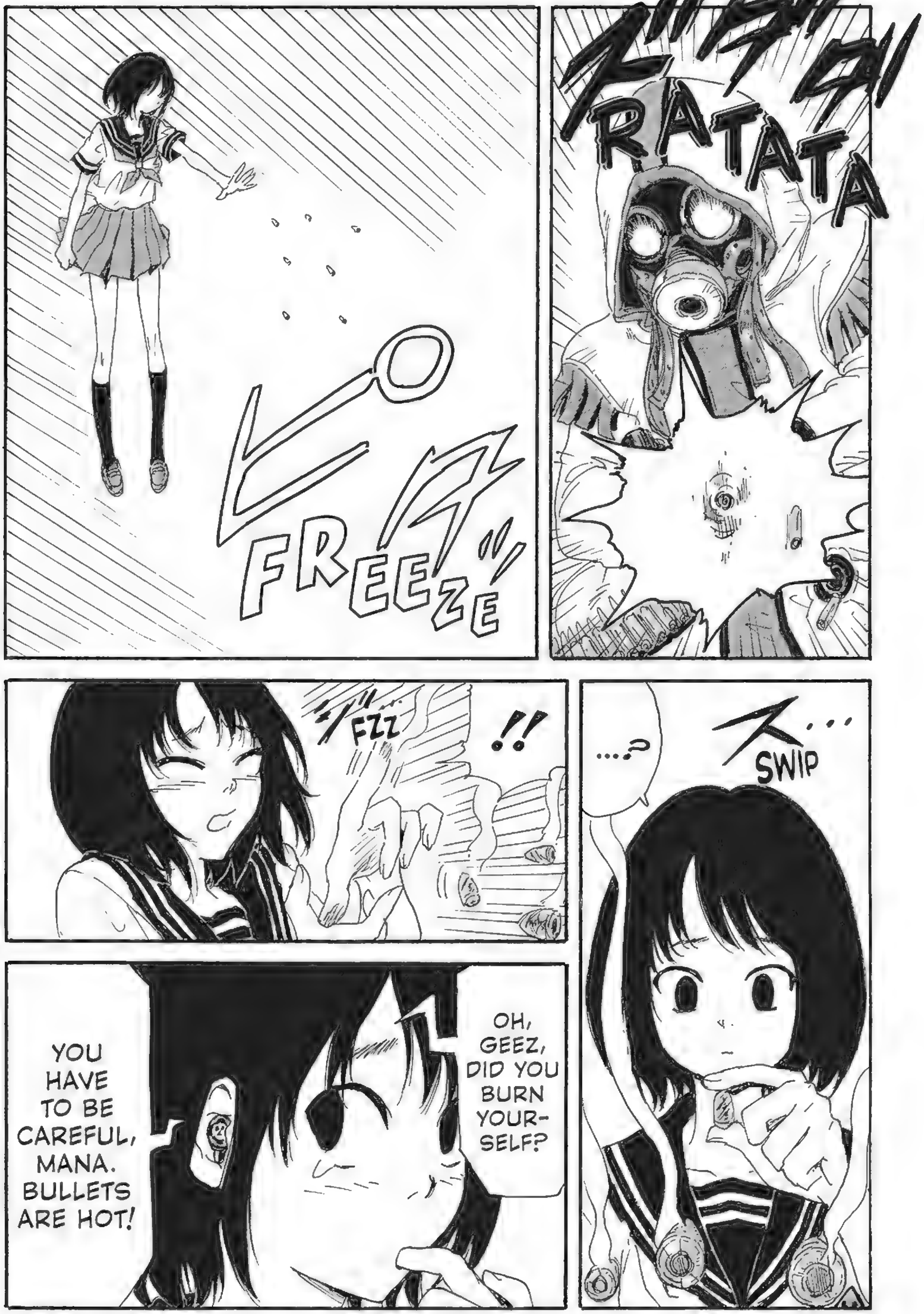

HWOOOO
安く売る店
世界堂
VROOM
SKREEE
SHINTO BANK
Here's our destination.
This's Shinto Bank.

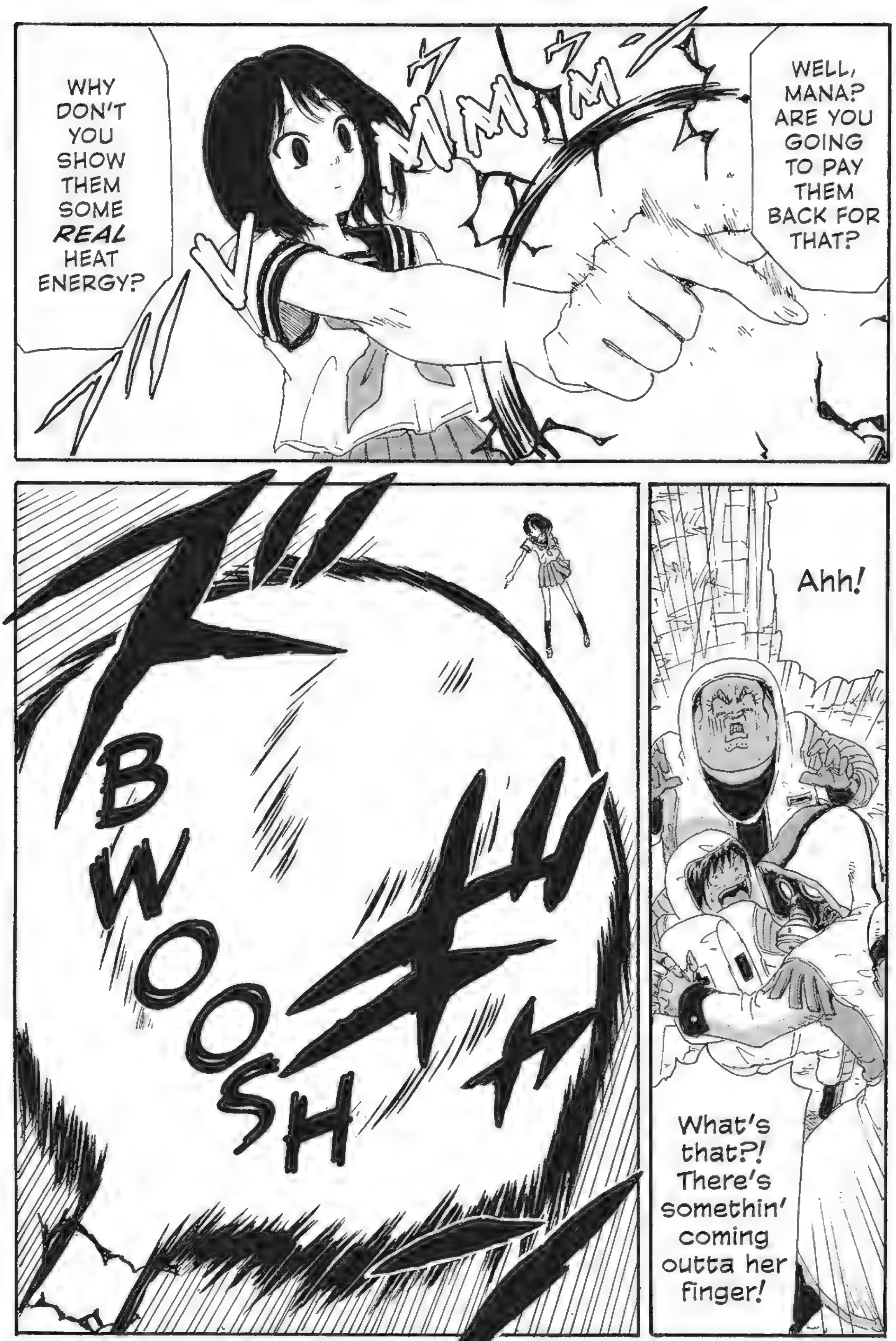

Survivors, come in!
Tell us your location!
TMP
This is the Copelion Unit!
...
We've arrived at Shinto Bank!
KCHK
BZZT
Hmm ...?
Dammit, they're not answerin' ...
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
... What's up, Kanon?
I sense three humans.
Just over that way... about 100 meters south of us.
Oh yeah, you can sense people! Awesome!
We better get to them fast. I can't feel 'em very well because of their hazmat suits.

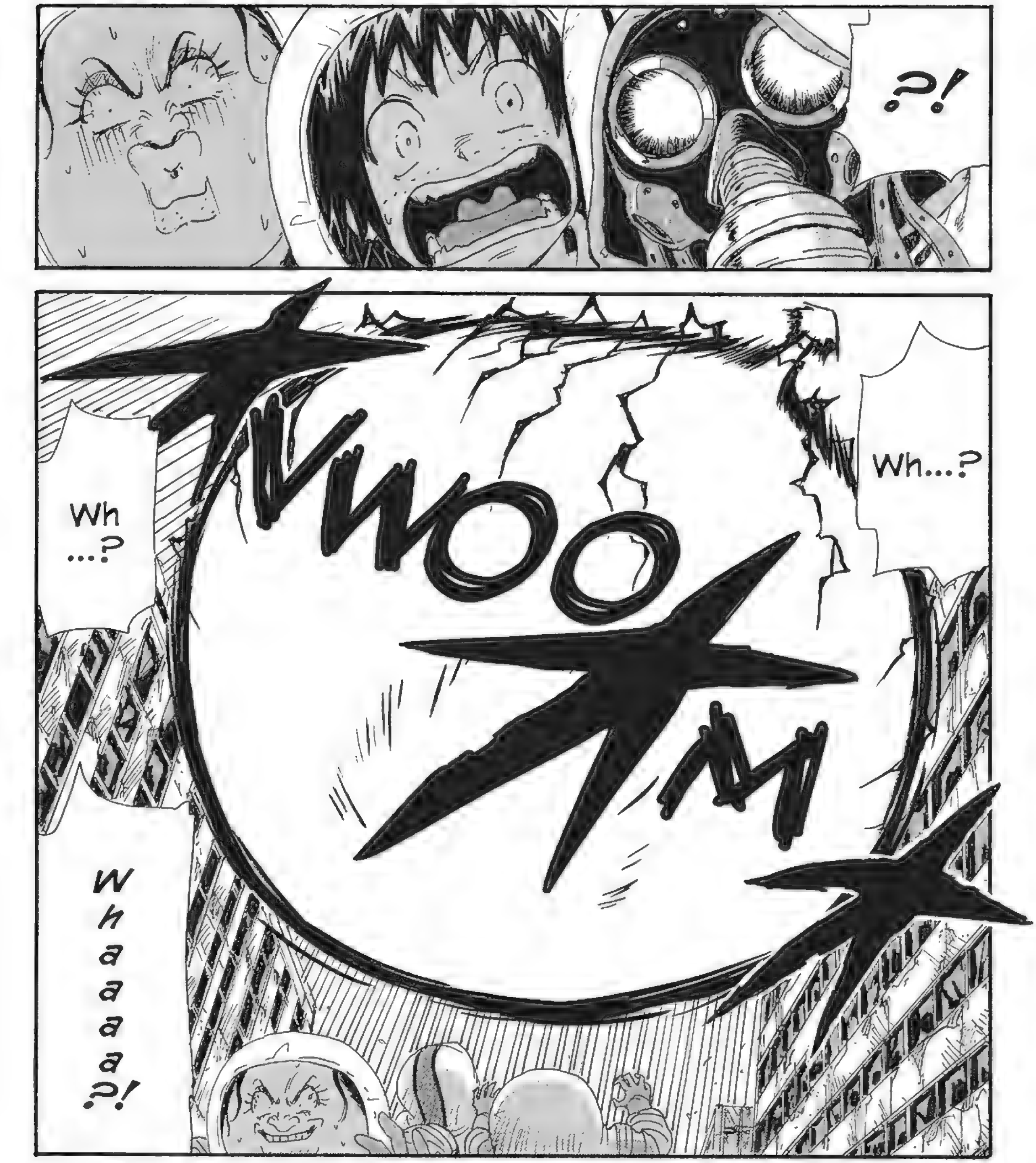

Shion, wait with the truck! The rest of us'll find the survivors!
SWSH
Alright!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
I...
HFF
FWUMP
HFF
I'm done for... I can't go a single step further ...
Come on, Mama!
HFF
HFF
We gotta get outta here before she shows up again!

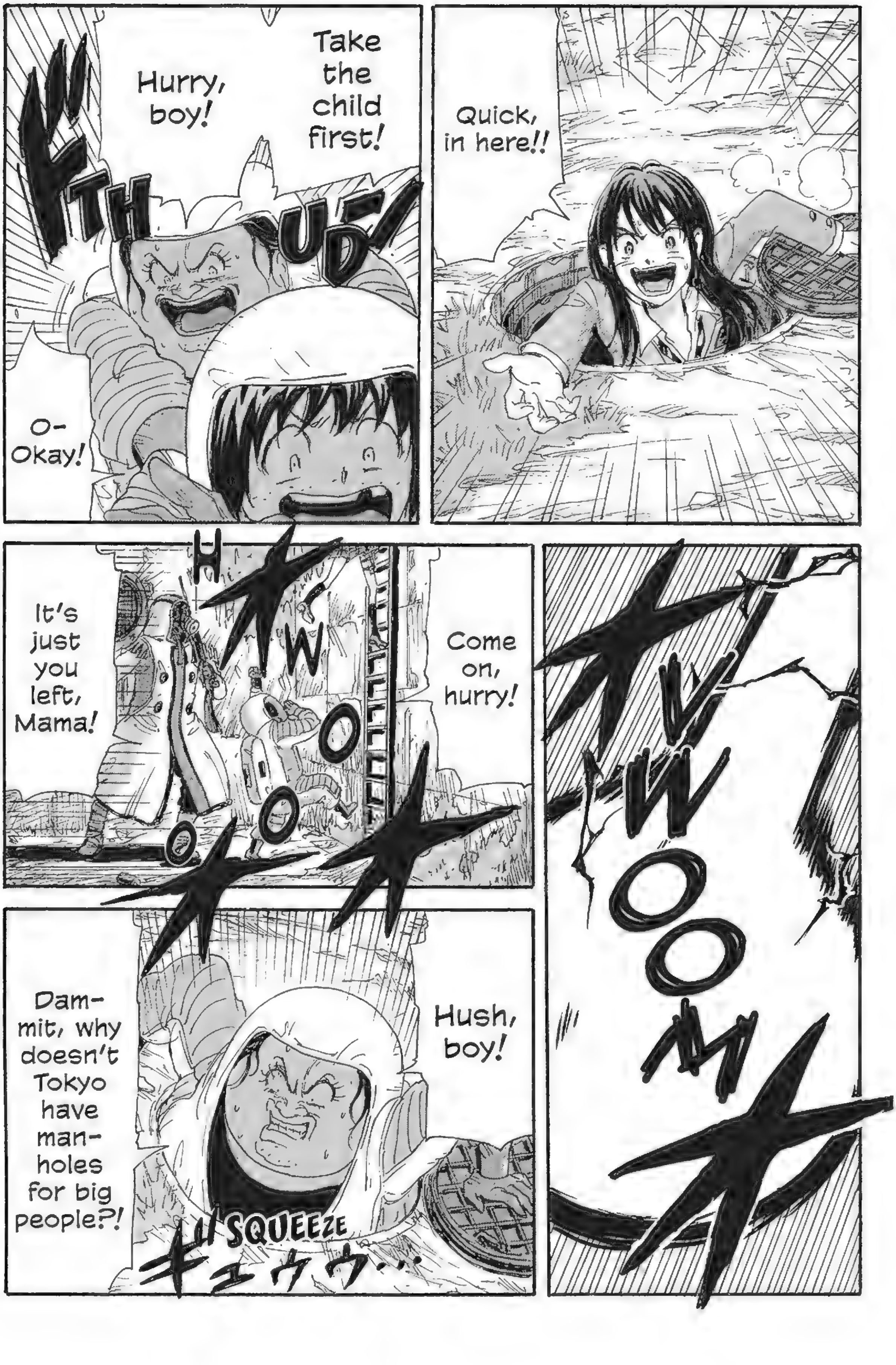

Hush, boy!
I weigh 150 kilos! So I need more oxygen!
Shouting'll just use it up faster!
Come on, get up!
Uuugh, I feel like I'm gonna die!
ピ ピ ピ
BEEP BEEP BEEP
!!
Asimov!
Did the radiation get bad again?!
NOD

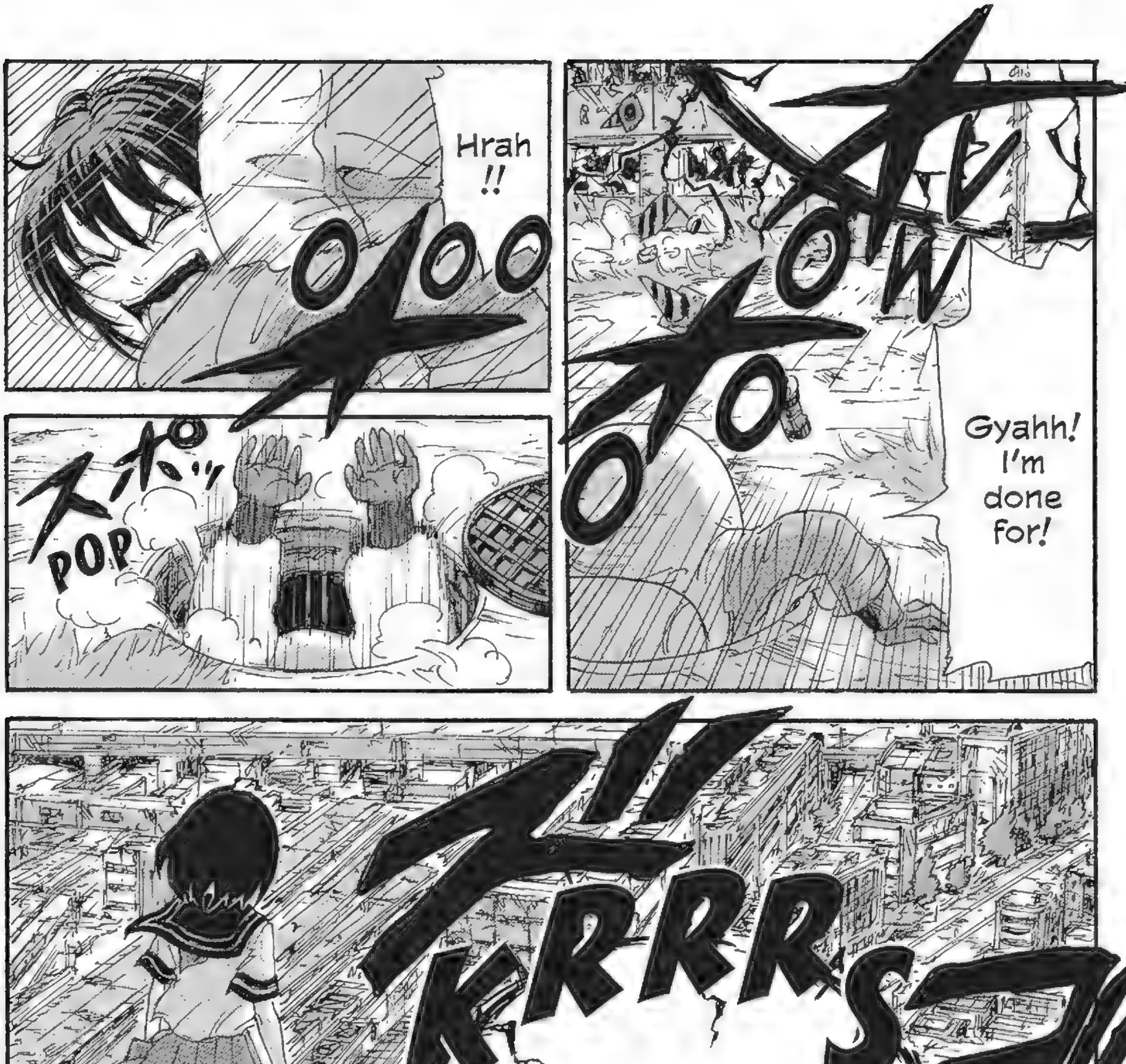

We gotta run!
ド THUD
Wh... Mama, wait for me!
ド THUD
Hrahhh... I can't die here!
ド THUD
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
!!
It's her!
フワ FWOOSH
The flyin' girl!

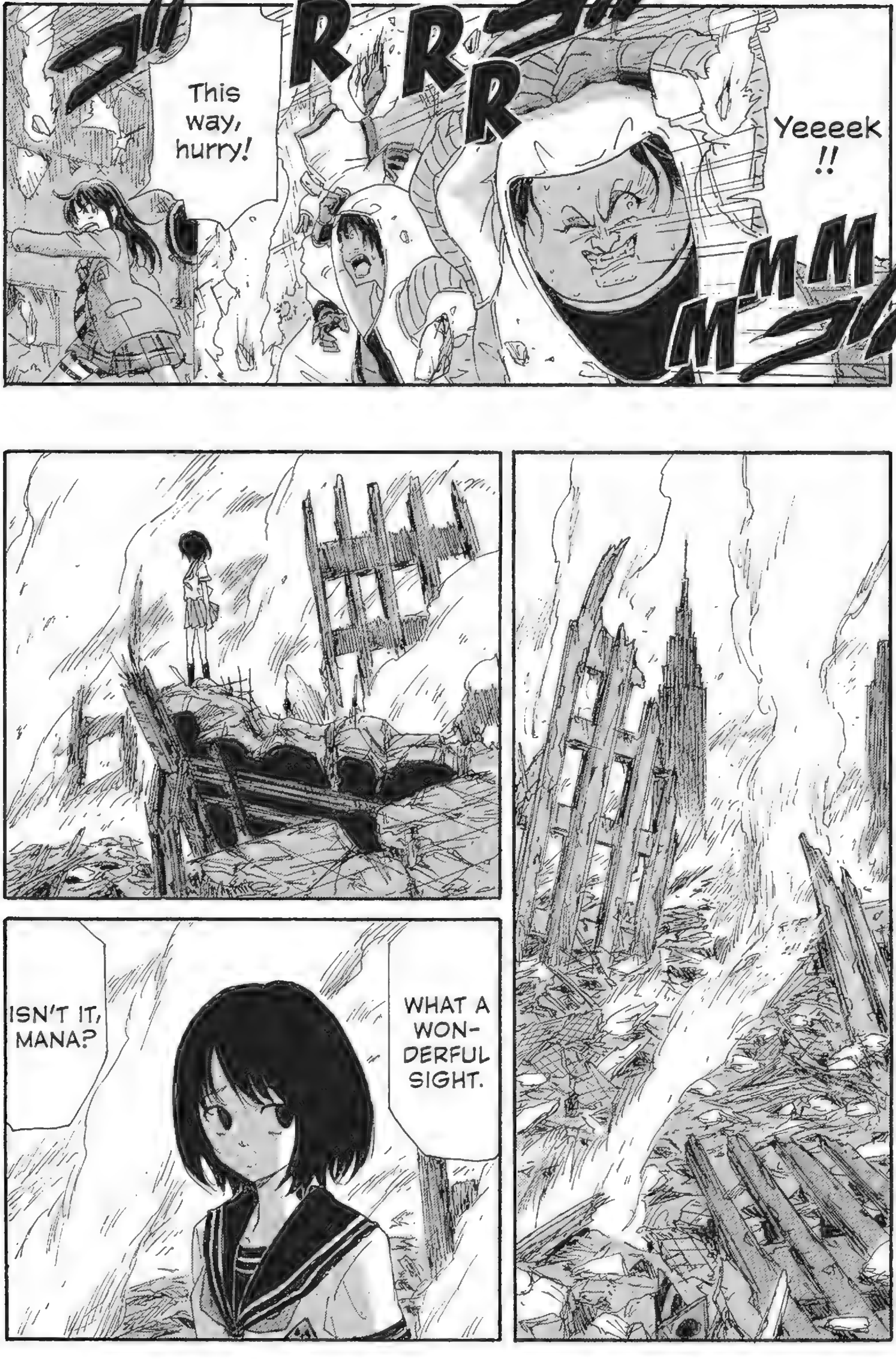

ズダダダ
RATATA
ピタ
FREEZE
...?
ス...
SWIP
FZZ
!!
OH, GEEZ, DID YOU BURN YOURSELF?
YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL, MANA. BULLETS ARE HOT!

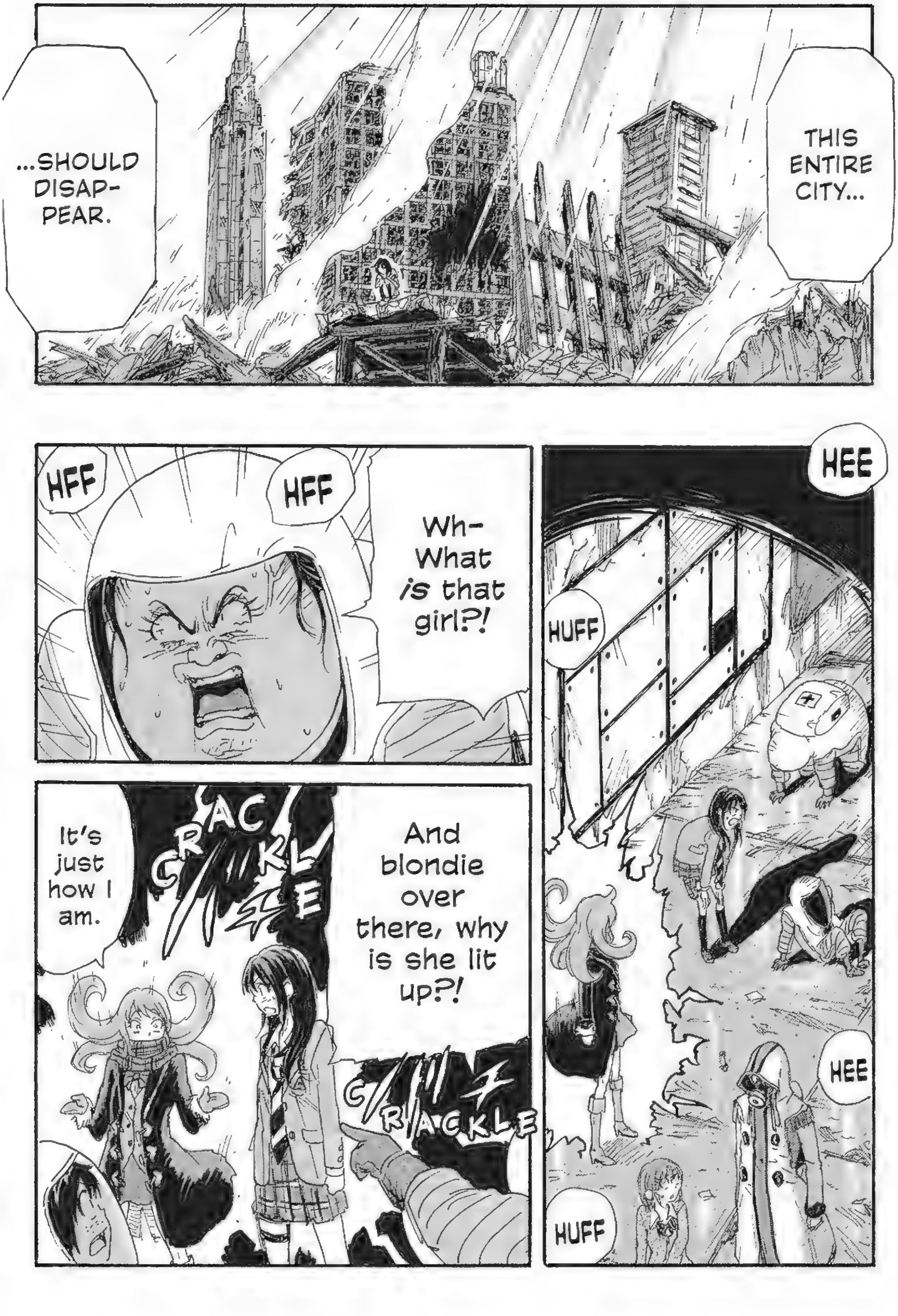

WELL, MANA? ARE YOU GOING TO PAY THEM BACK FOR THAT?
MMMM
WHY DON'T YOU SHOW THEM SOME *REAL* HEAT ENERGY?
Ahh!
What's that?! There's somethin' coming outta her finger!
BWOOSH

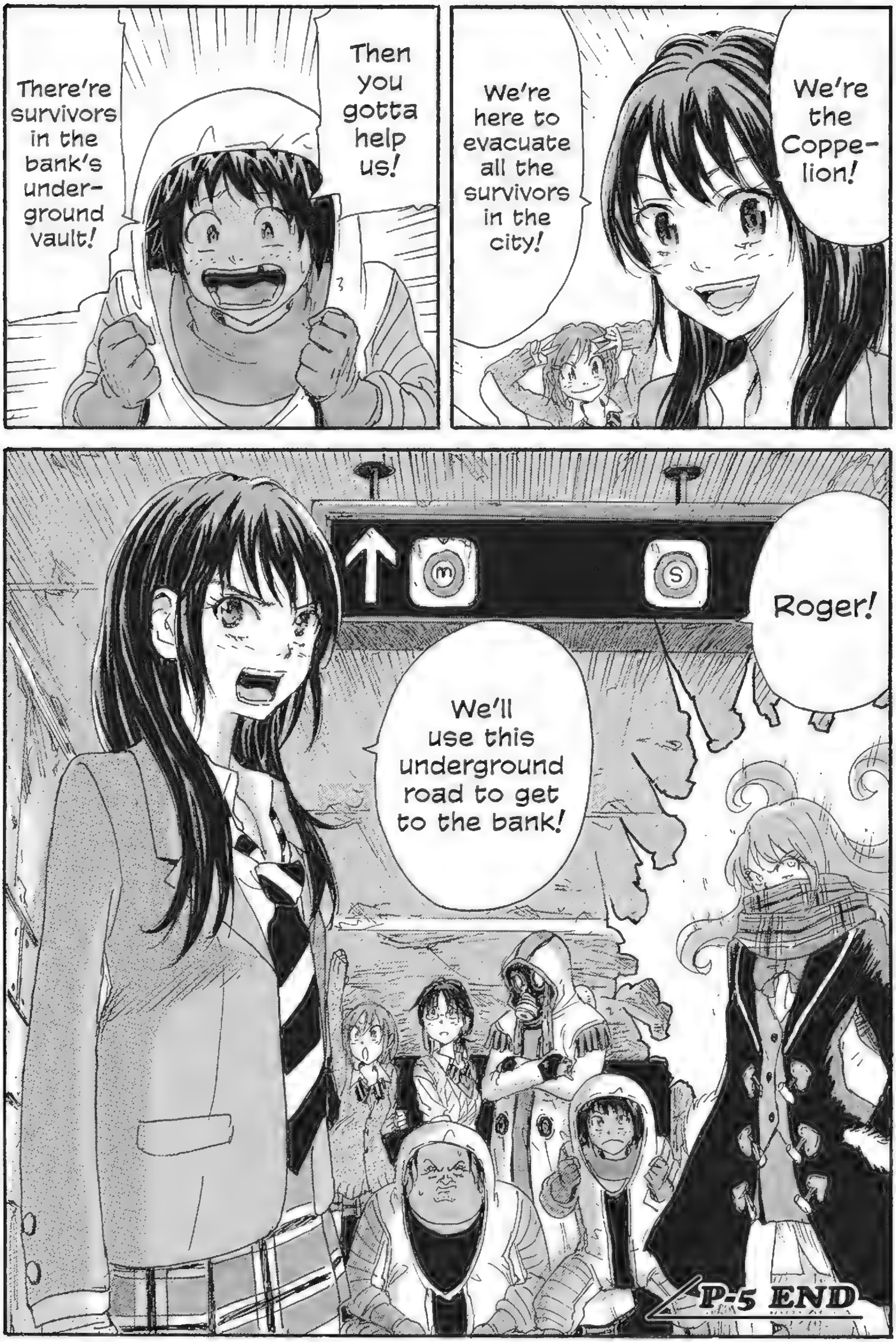

?!
Wh...?
WOOOM
Wh ...?
Whaaaaa?!
?!
Over here!


Quick, in here!!
Take the child first!
Hurry, boy!
THUD!
O-Okay!
VWOOM
Come on, hurry!
It's just you left, Mama!
HWOOO
Hush, boy!
Dammit, why doesn't Tokyo have manholes for big people?!
SQUEEZE
キュウウ…

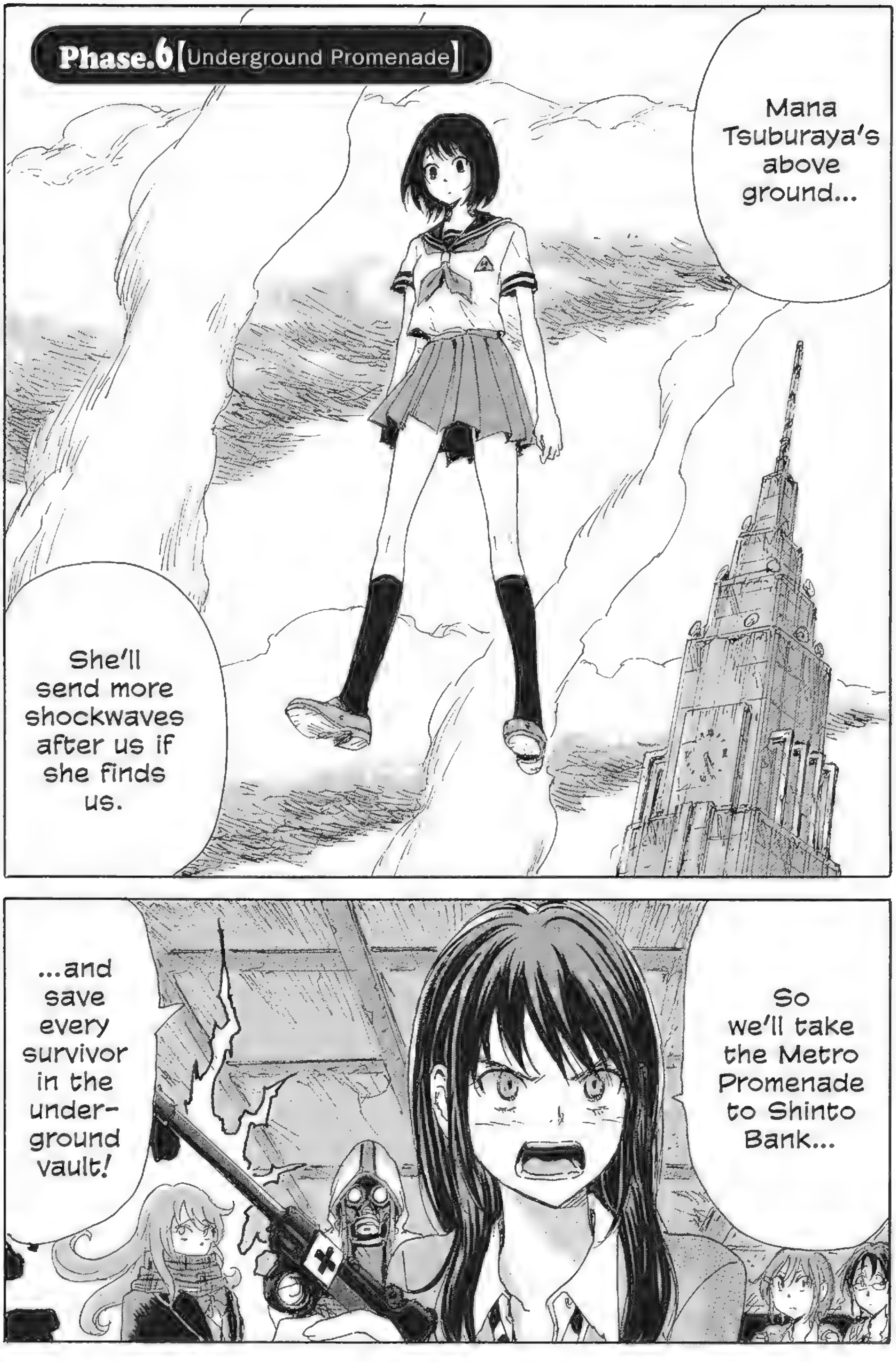

OOOW
Gyahh! I'm done for!
Hrah !!
OOO
スポッ
POP
KRRRSH

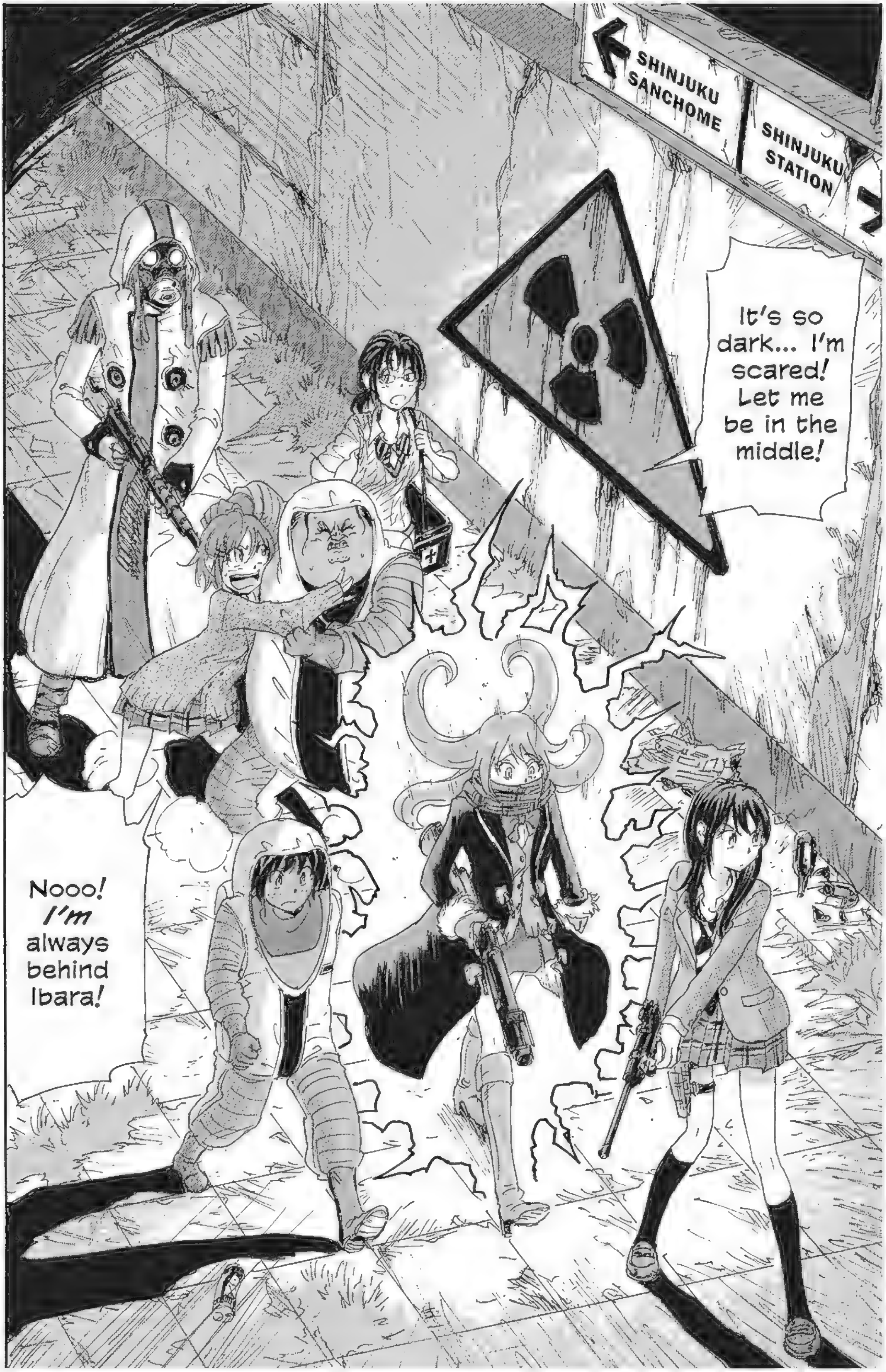

Yeeeek !!
RRR
ゴッ
This way, hurry!
ゴッ
MMM
ゴッ
WHAT A WONDERFUL SIGHT.
ISN'T IT, MANA?

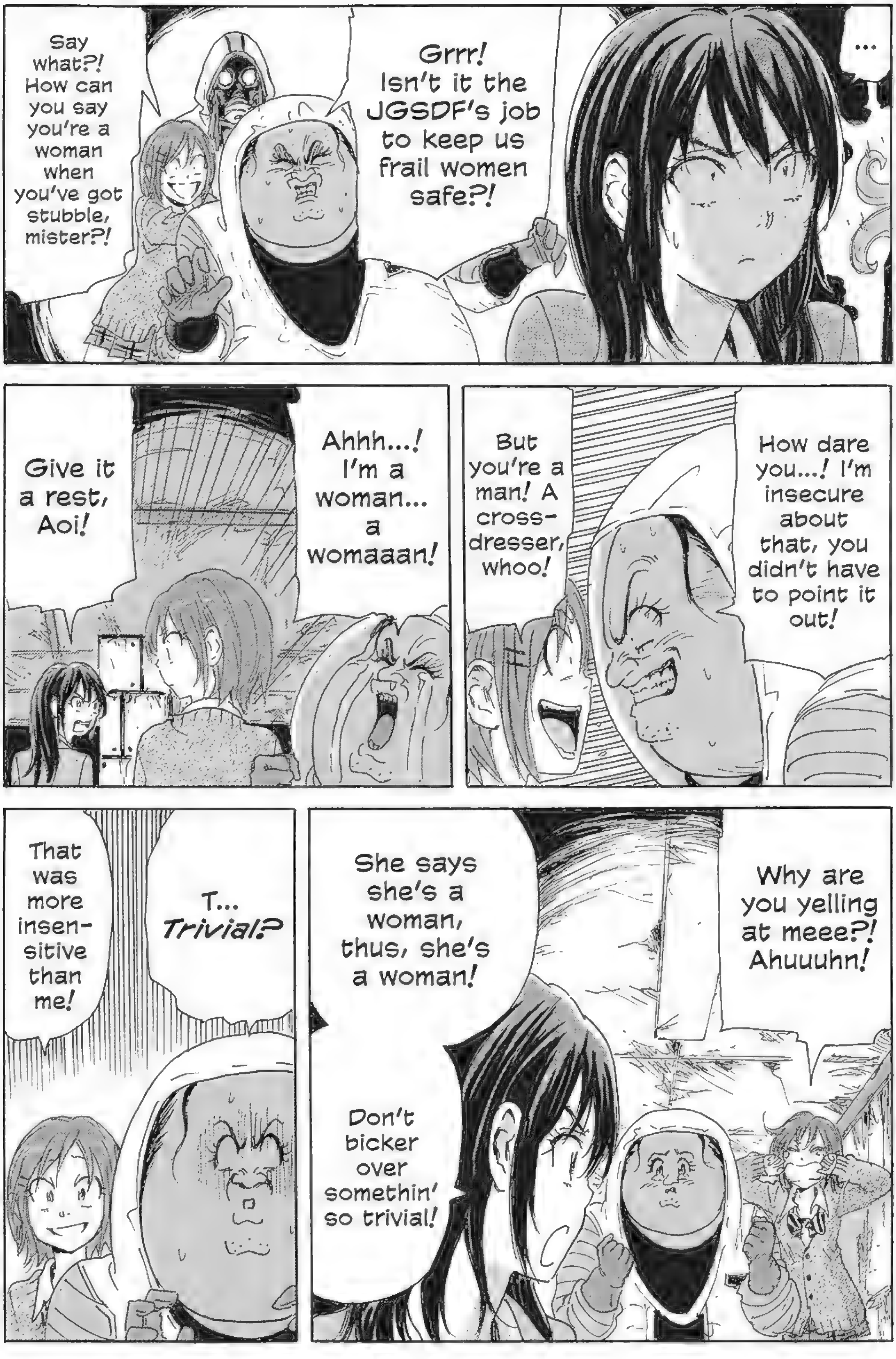

THIS ENTIRE CITY...
...SHOULD DISAPPEAR.
HEE
HUFF
HEE
HUFF
Wh- What *is* that girl?!
HFF
HFF
And blondie over there, why is she lit up?!
CRACKLE
It's just how I am.
CRACKLE

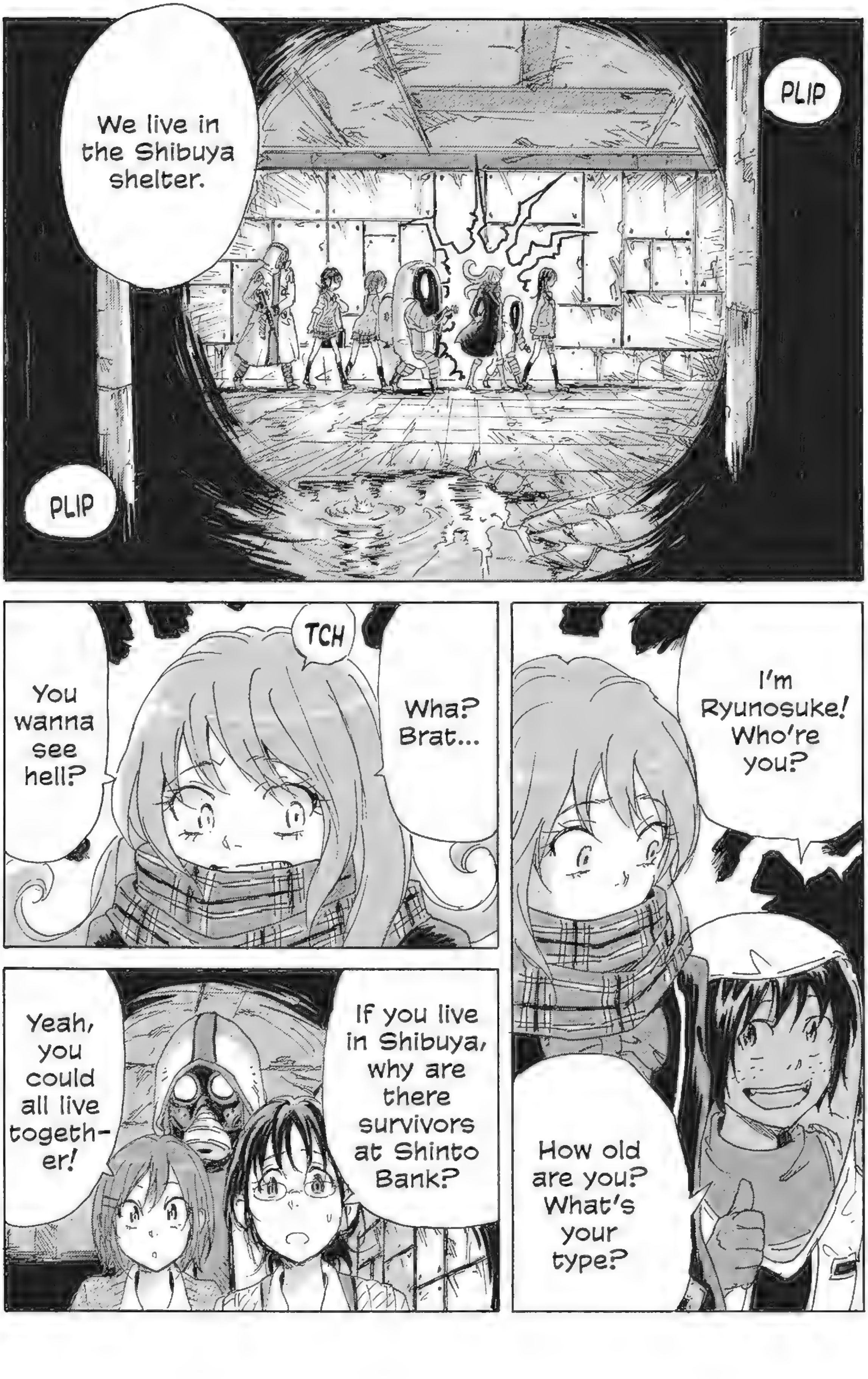

We're the Coppelion!
We're here to evacuate all the survivors in the city!
Then you gotta help us!
There're survivors in the bank's underground vault!
Roger!
We'll use this underground road to get to the bank!
P-5 END

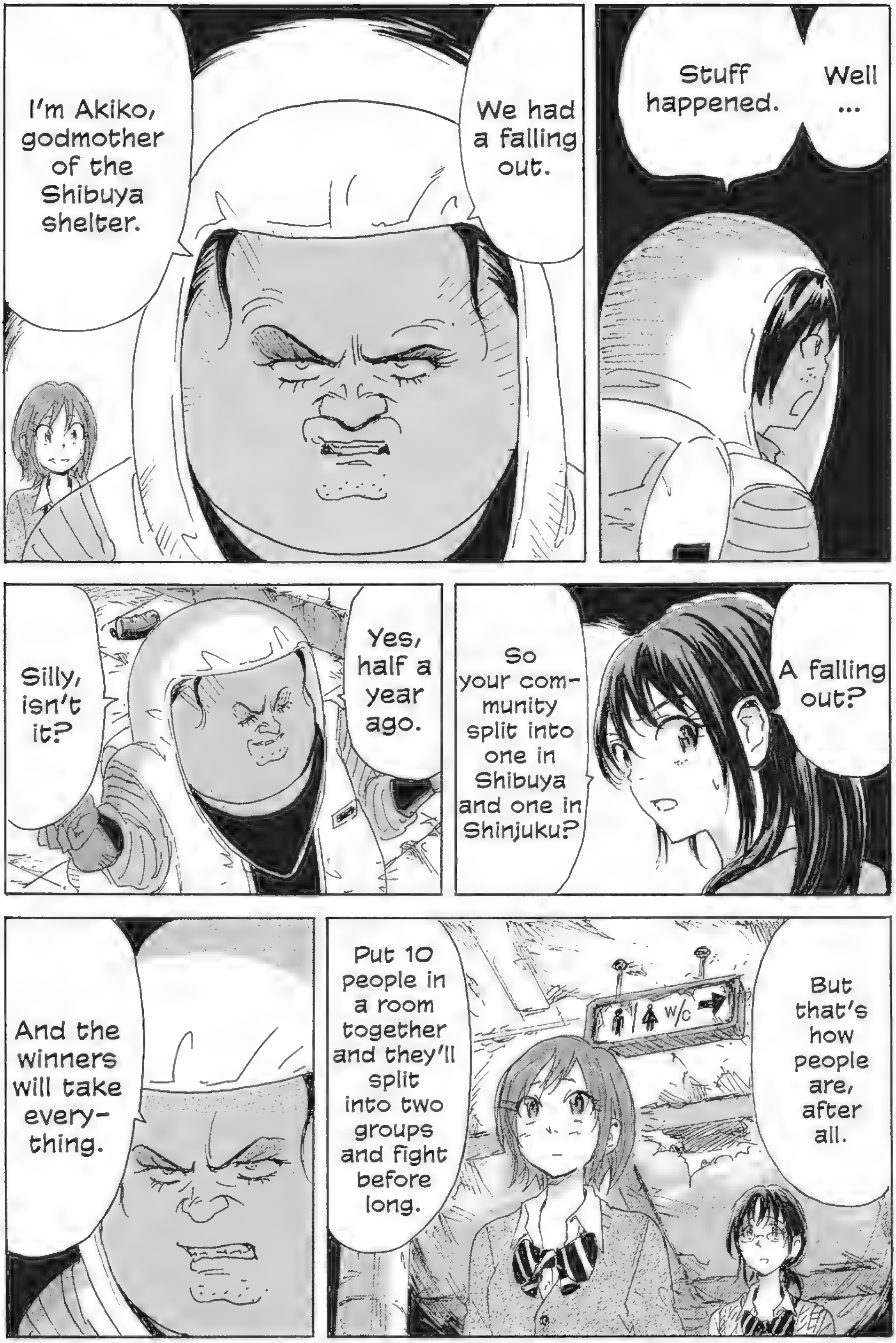
Phase.6 [Underground Promenade]

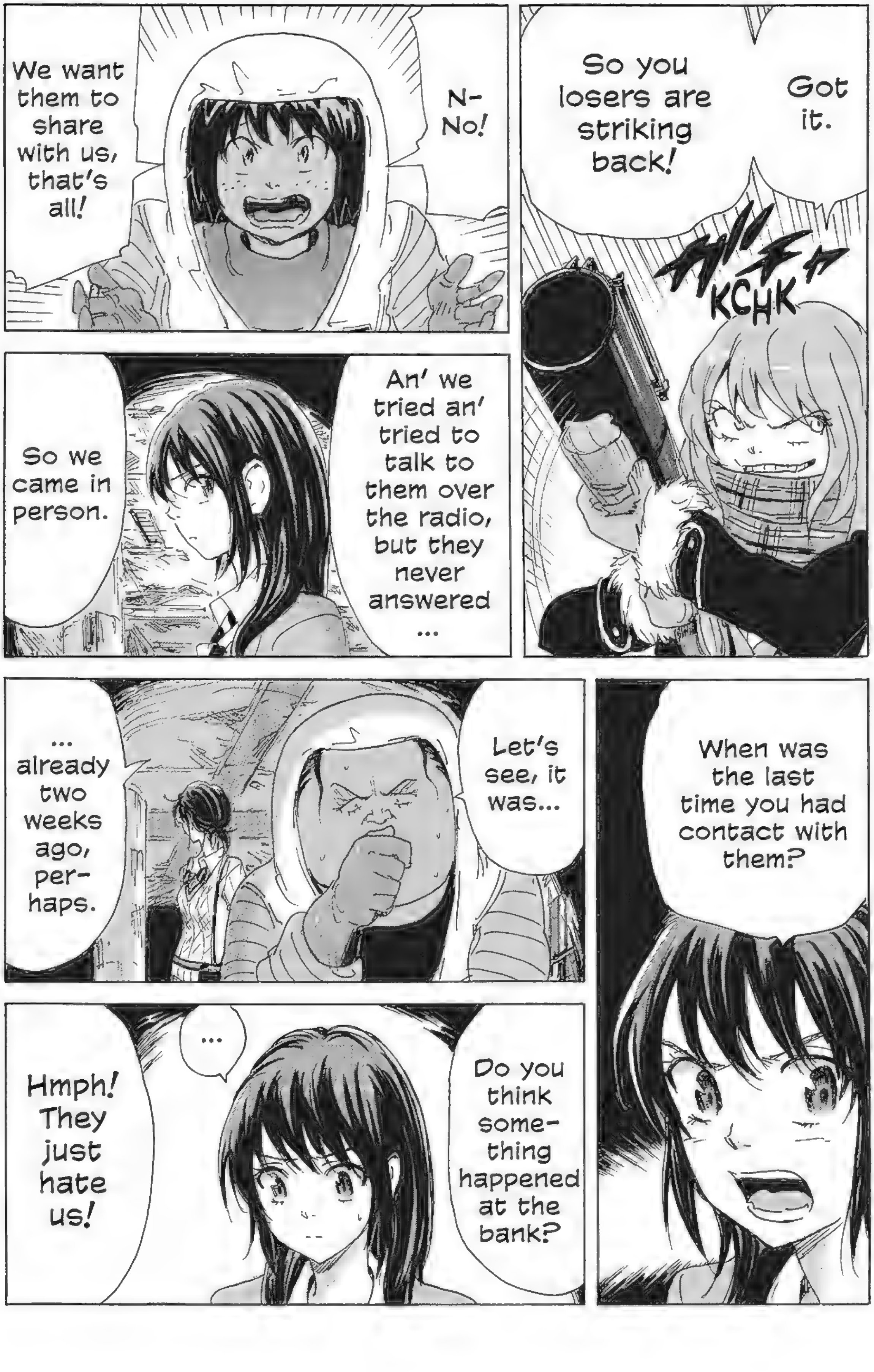

Mana Tsuburaya's above ground...
She'll send more shockwaves after us if she finds us.
So we'll take the Metro Promenade to Shinto Bank...
...and save every survivor in the underground vault!

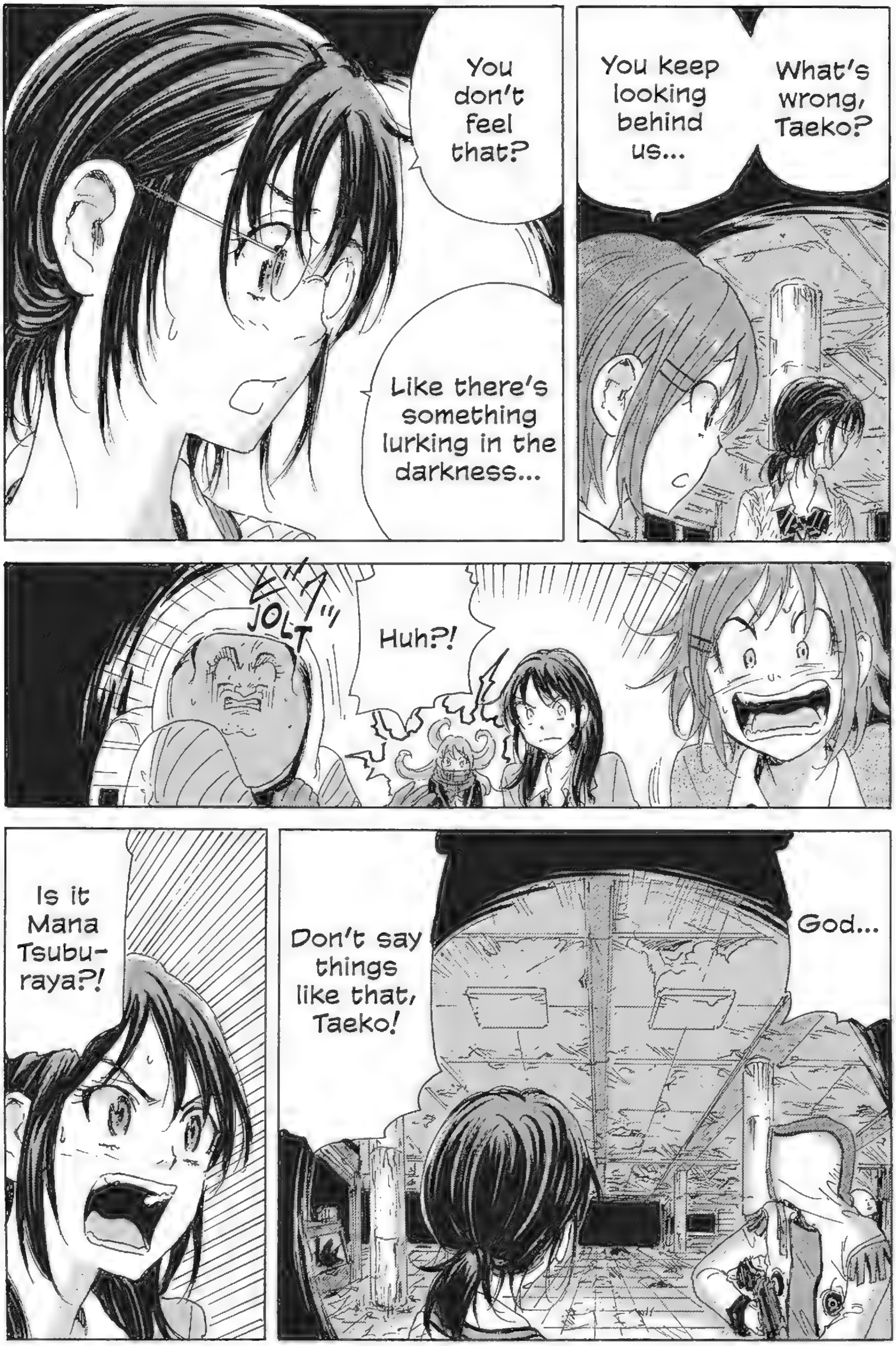

SHINJUKU SANCHOME
SHINJUKU STATION
It's so dark... I'm scared! Let me be in the middle!
Nooo! *I'm* always behind Ibara!

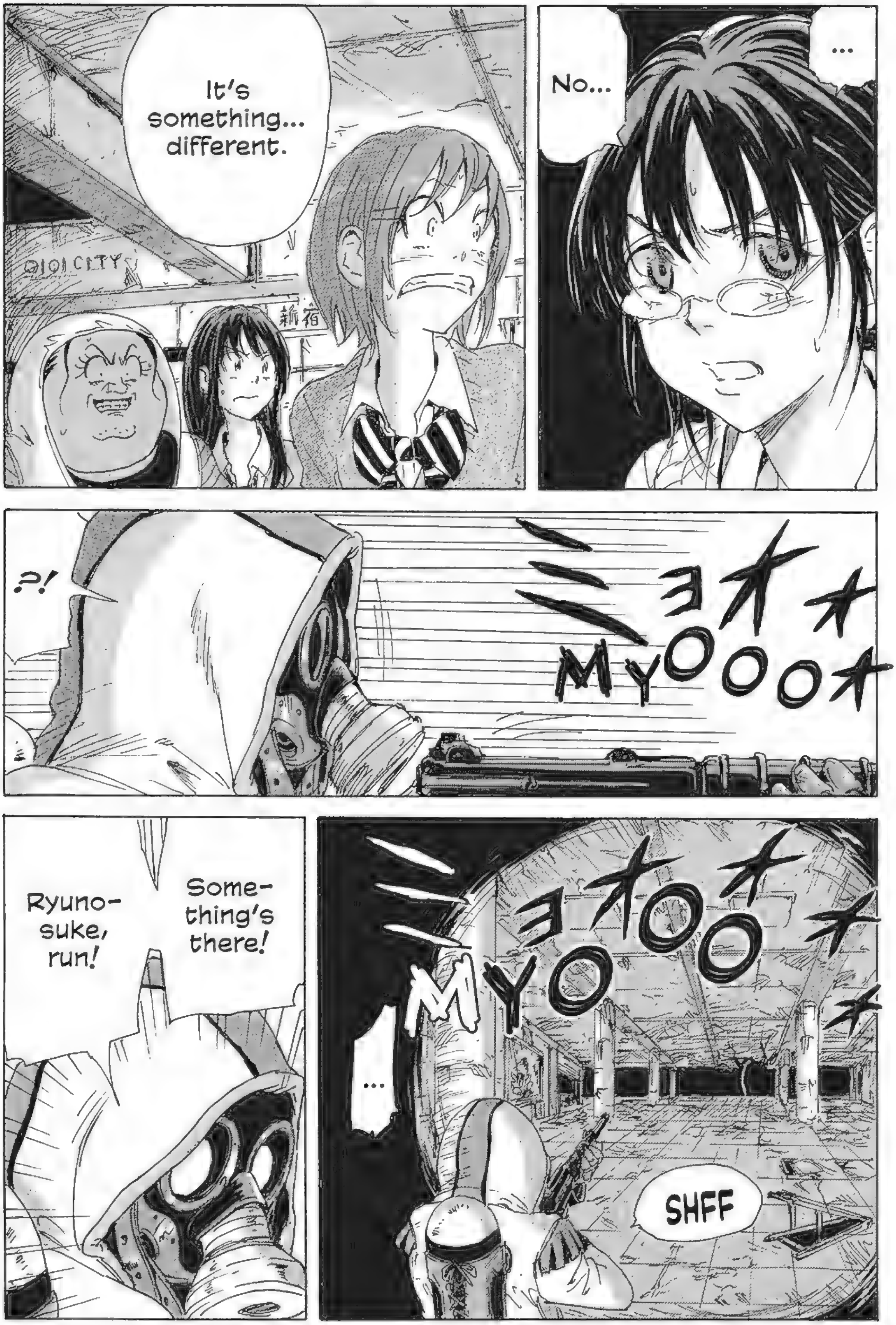

...
Grrr! Isn't it the JGSDF's job to keep us frail women safe?!
Say what?! How can you say you're a woman when you've got stubble, mister?!
How dare you...! I'm insecure about that, you didn't have to point it out!
But you're a man! A cross-dresser, whoo!
Ahhh...! I'm a woman... a womaaan!
Give it a rest, Aoi!
Why are you yelling at meee?! Ahuuuhn!
She says she's a woman, thus, she's a woman!
Don't bicker over somethin' so trivial!
T... *Trivial?*
That was more insensitive than me!

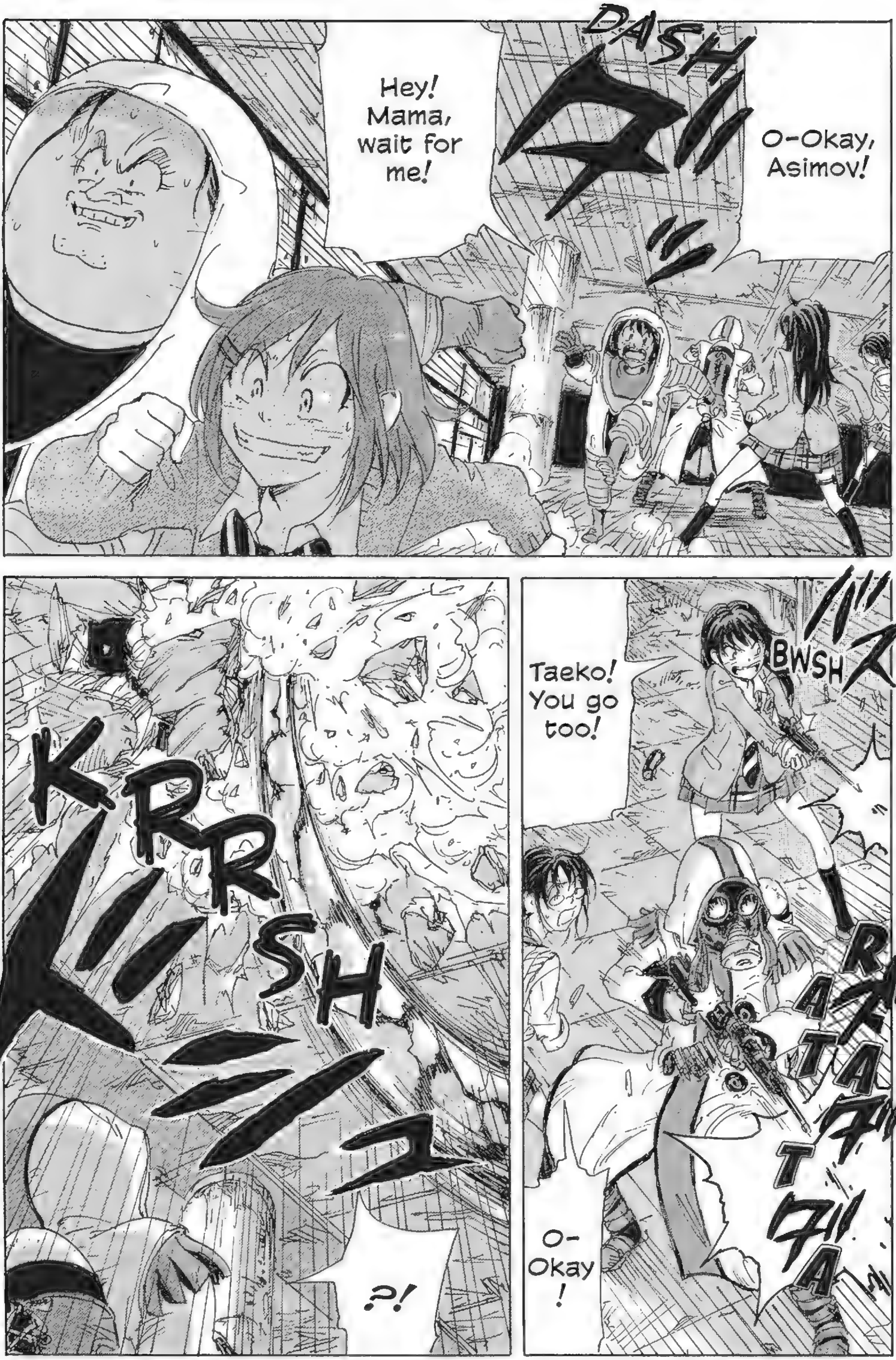

PLIP
We live in the Shibuya shelter.
PLIP
I'm Ryunosuke! Who're you?
How old are you? What's your type?
Wha? Brat...
TCH
You wanna see hell?
If you live in Shibuya, why are there survivors at Shinto Bank?
Yeah, you could all live together!

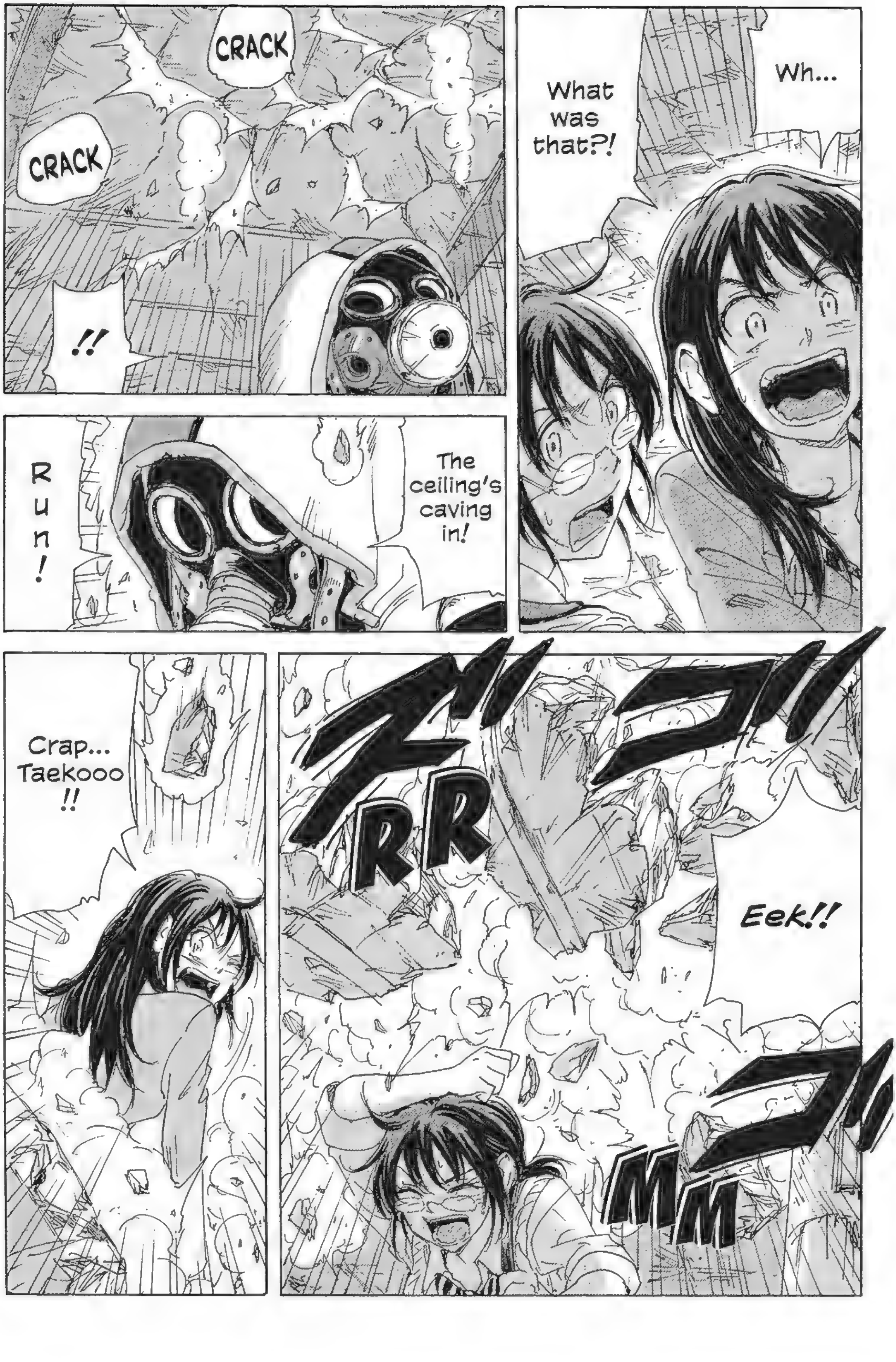

Well ...
Stuff happened.
We had a falling out.
I'm Akiko, godmother of the Shibuya shelter.
A falling out?
So your community split into one in Shibuya and one in Shinjuku?
Yes, half a year ago.
Silly, isn't it?
W/C
But that's how people are, after all.
Put 10 people in a room together and they'll split into two groups and fight before long.
And the winners will take everything.

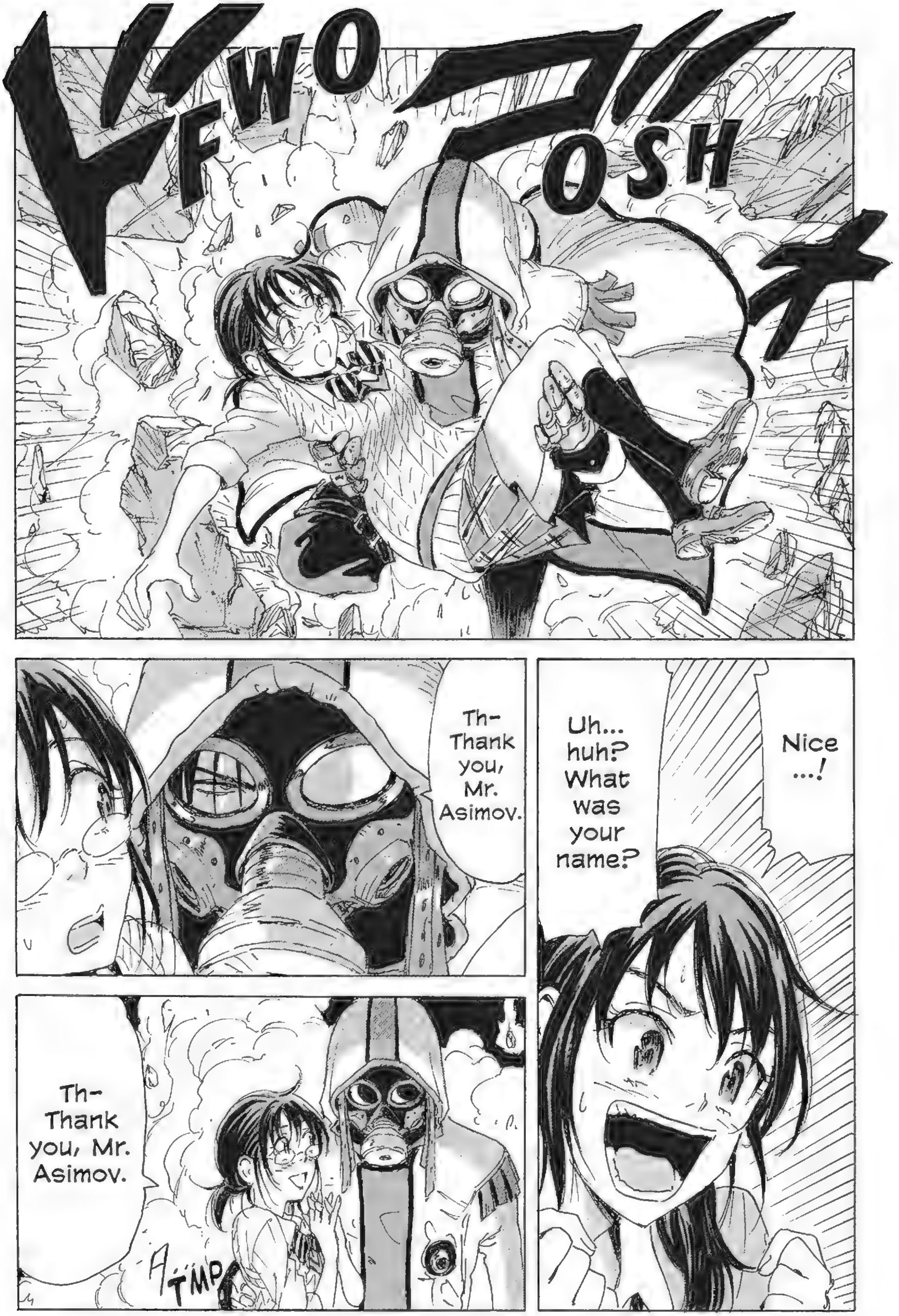

Got it.
So you losers are striking back!
KCHK
N-No!
We want them to share with us, that's all!
An' we tried an' tried to talk to them over the radio, but they never answered ...
So we came in person.
When was the last time you had contact with them?
Let's see, it was...
... already two weeks ago, perhaps.
Do you think something happened at the bank?
...
Hmph! They just hate us!

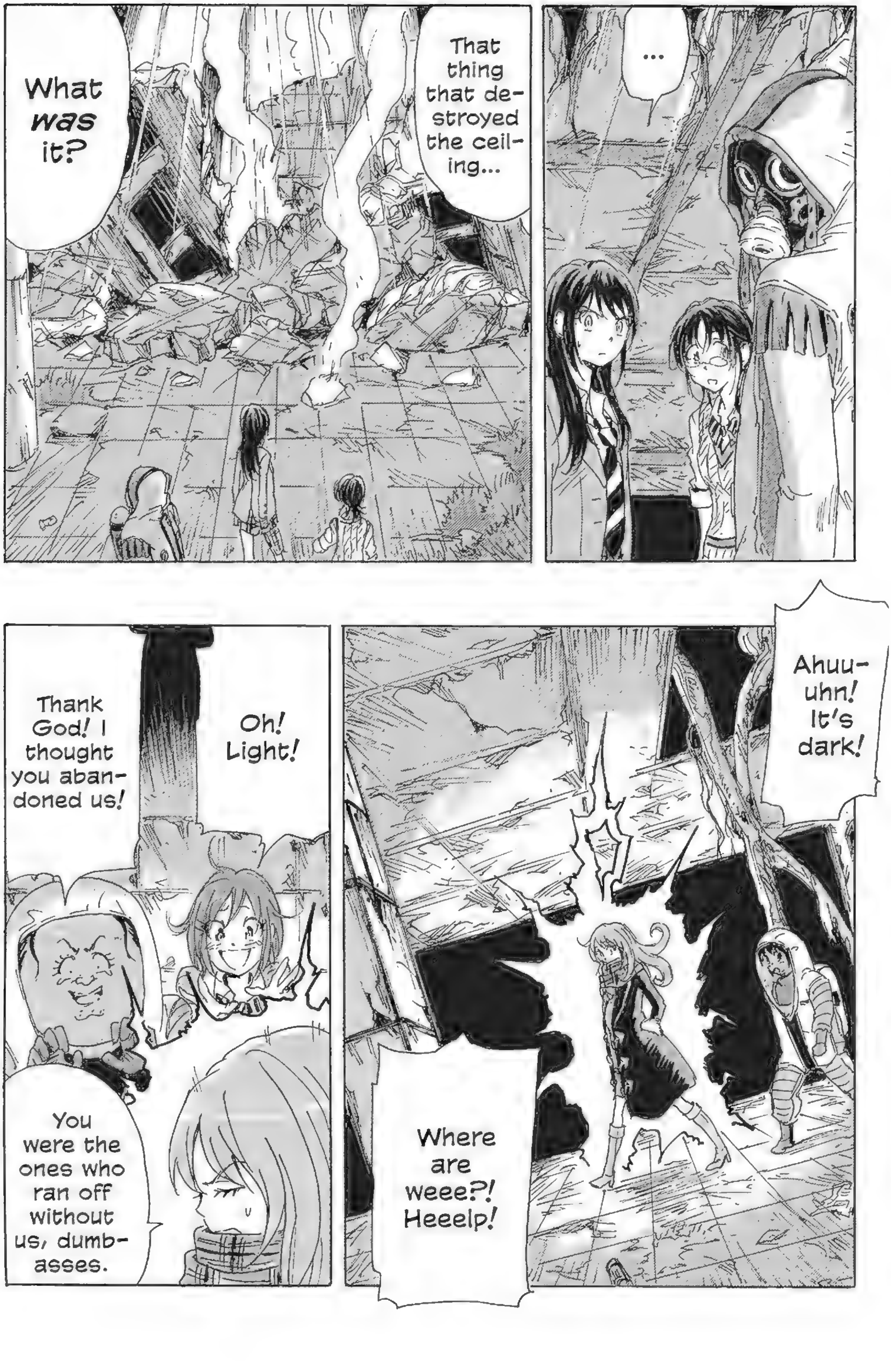

What's wrong, Taeko?
You keep looking behind us...
You don't feel that?
Like there's something lurking in the darkness...
Huh?!
JOLT
God...
Don't say things like that, Taeko!
Is it Mana Tsuburaya?!

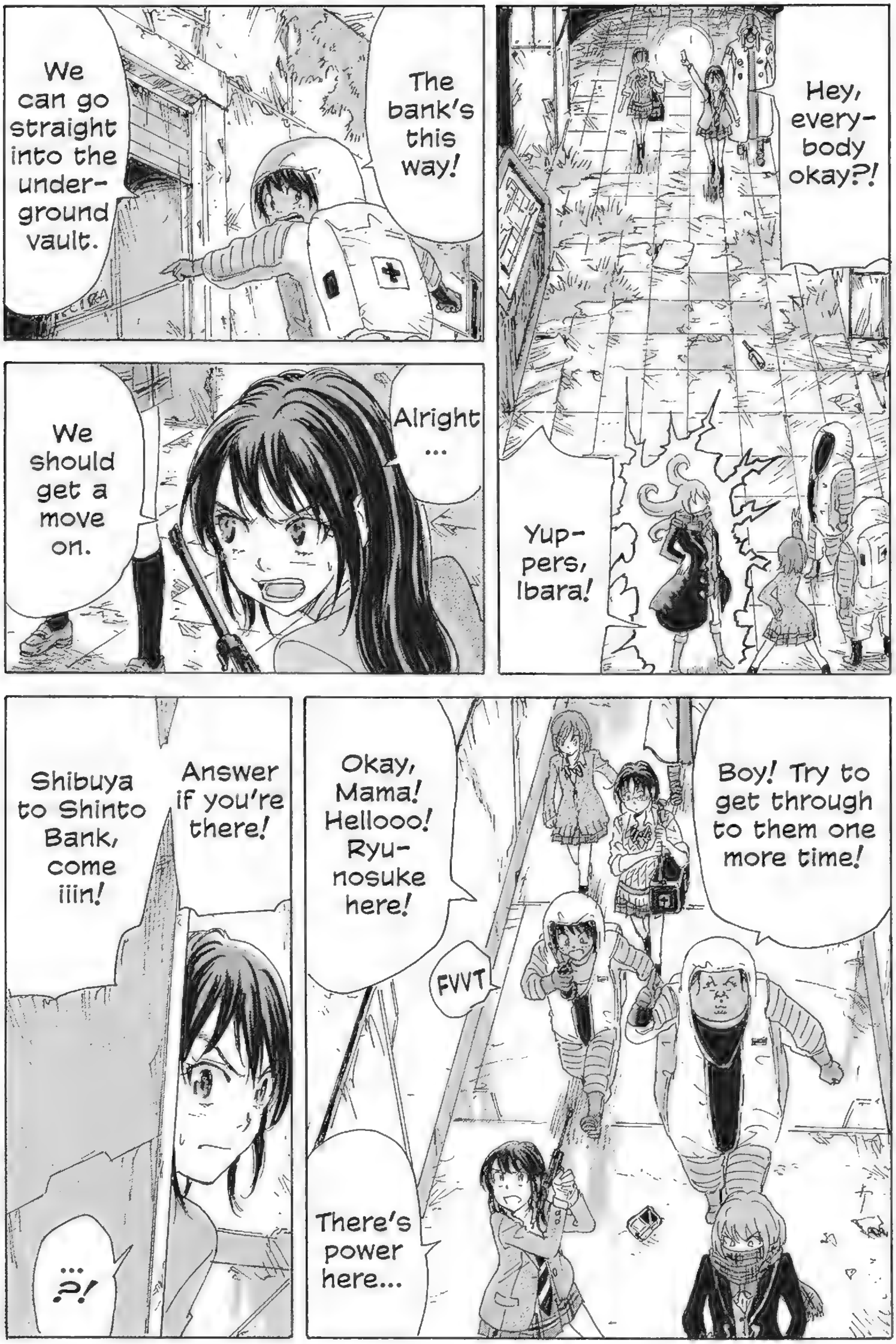

...
No...
It's something... different.
0|0| CITY
新宿
ミョオオオ
MYOOOO
?!
ミョオオオ
MYOOOO
...
SHFF
Something's there!
Ryunosuke, run!

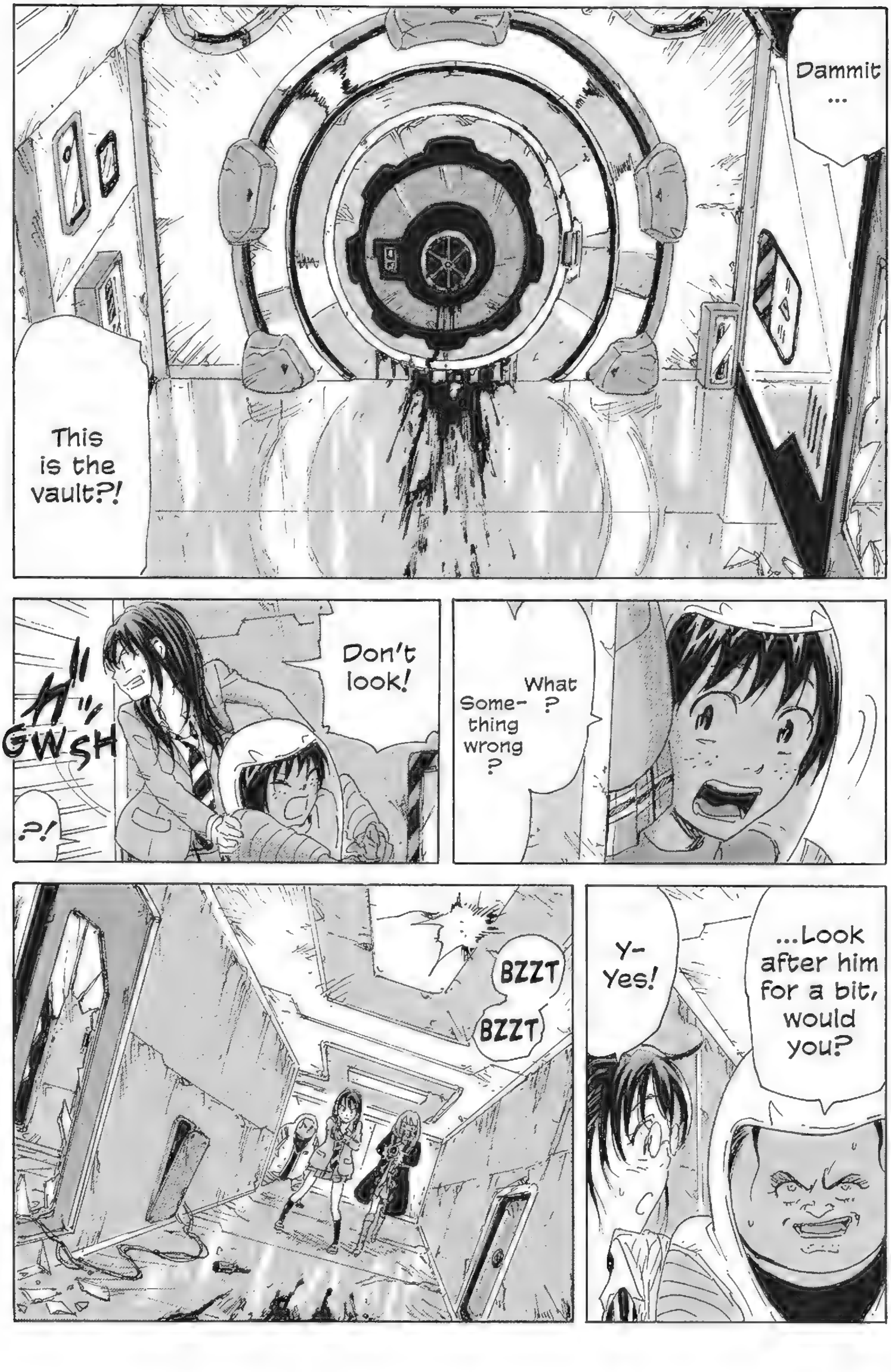

DASH
O-Okay, Asimov!
Hey! Mama, wait for me!
BWSH
Taeko! You go too!
RATATATTA
O-Okay!
KRRRSH
?!

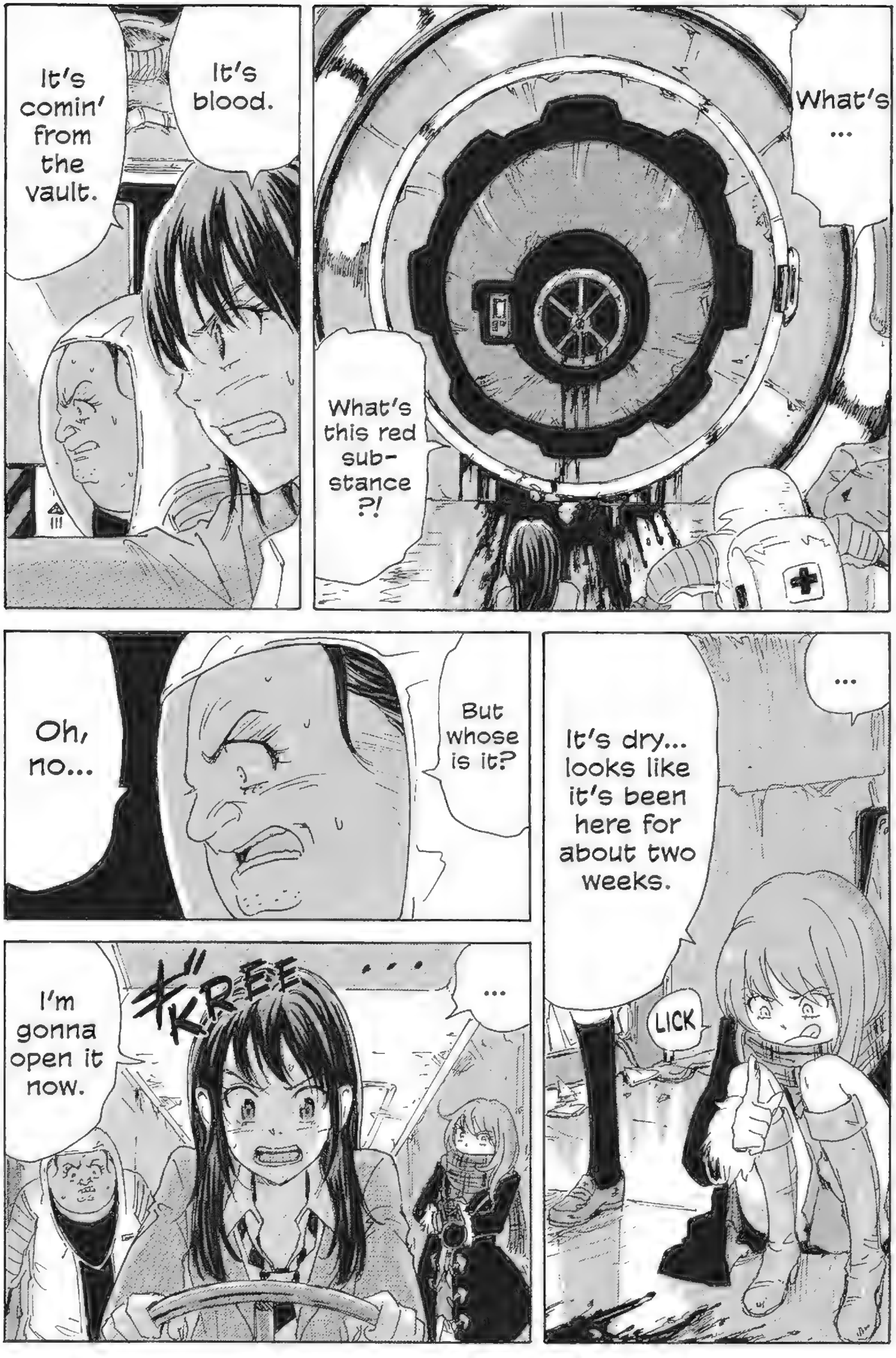

Wh...
What was that?!
CRACK
CRACK
!!
The ceiling's caving in!
Run!
RR
Eek!!
MM
Crap... Taekooo!!

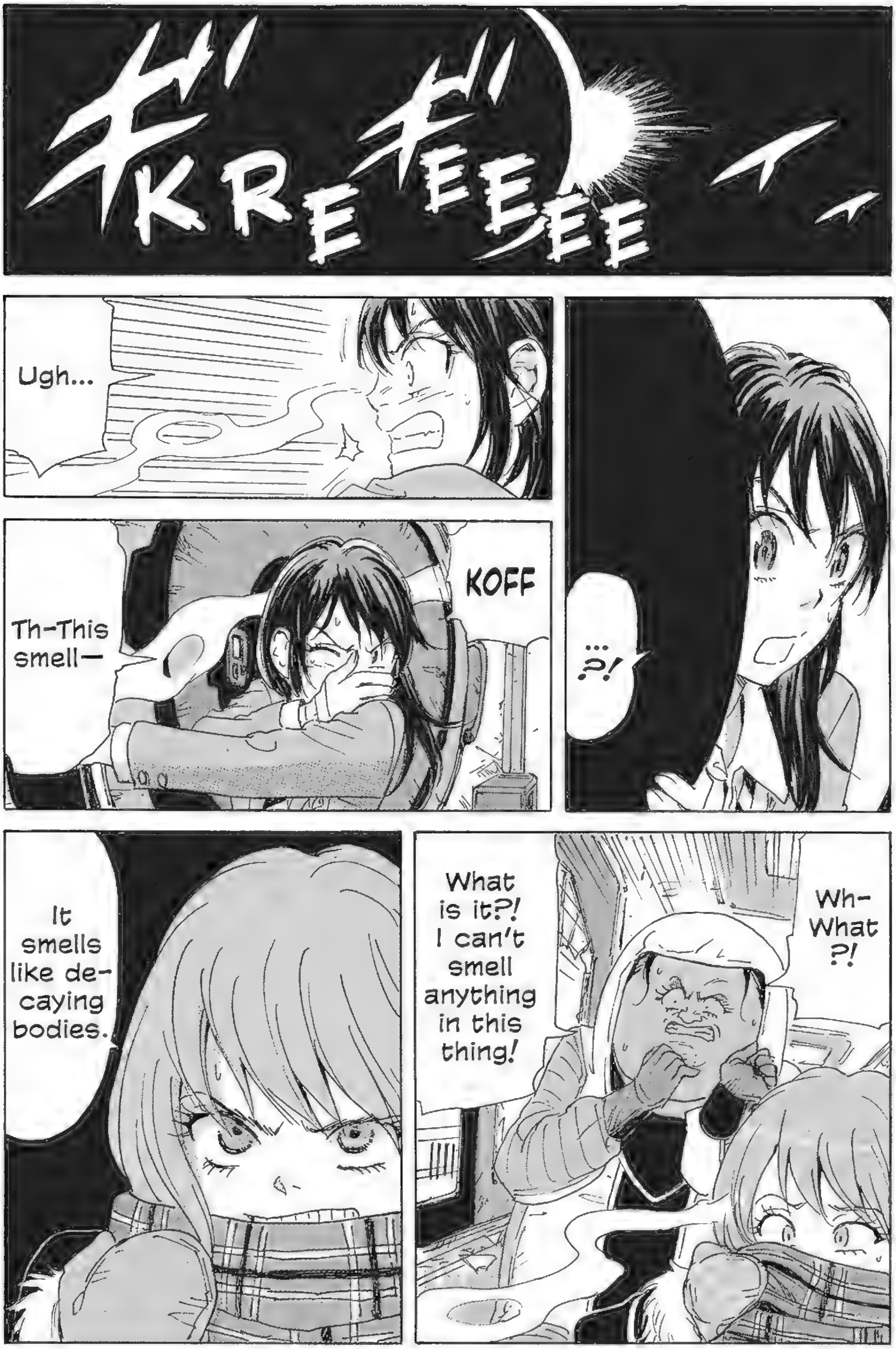

FWOOSH
Nice ...!
Uh... huh? What was your name?
Th- Thank you, Mr. Asimov.
Th- Thank you, Mr. Asimov.
TMP

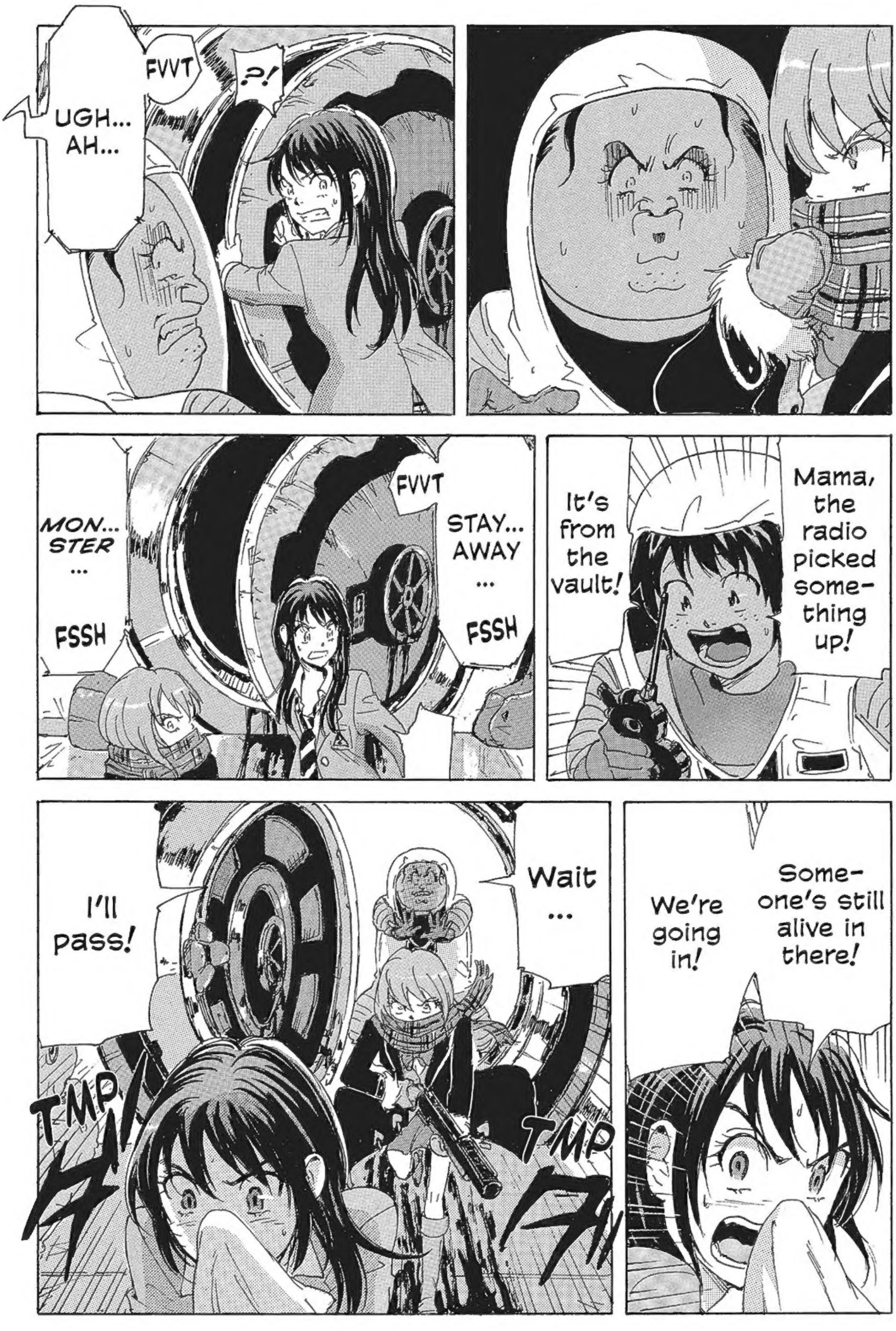

...
That thing that destroyed the ceiling...
What *was* it?
Ahuu-uhn! It's dark!
Where are weee?! Heeelp!
Oh! Light!
Thank God! I thought you abandoned us!
You were the ones who ran off without us, dumbasses.

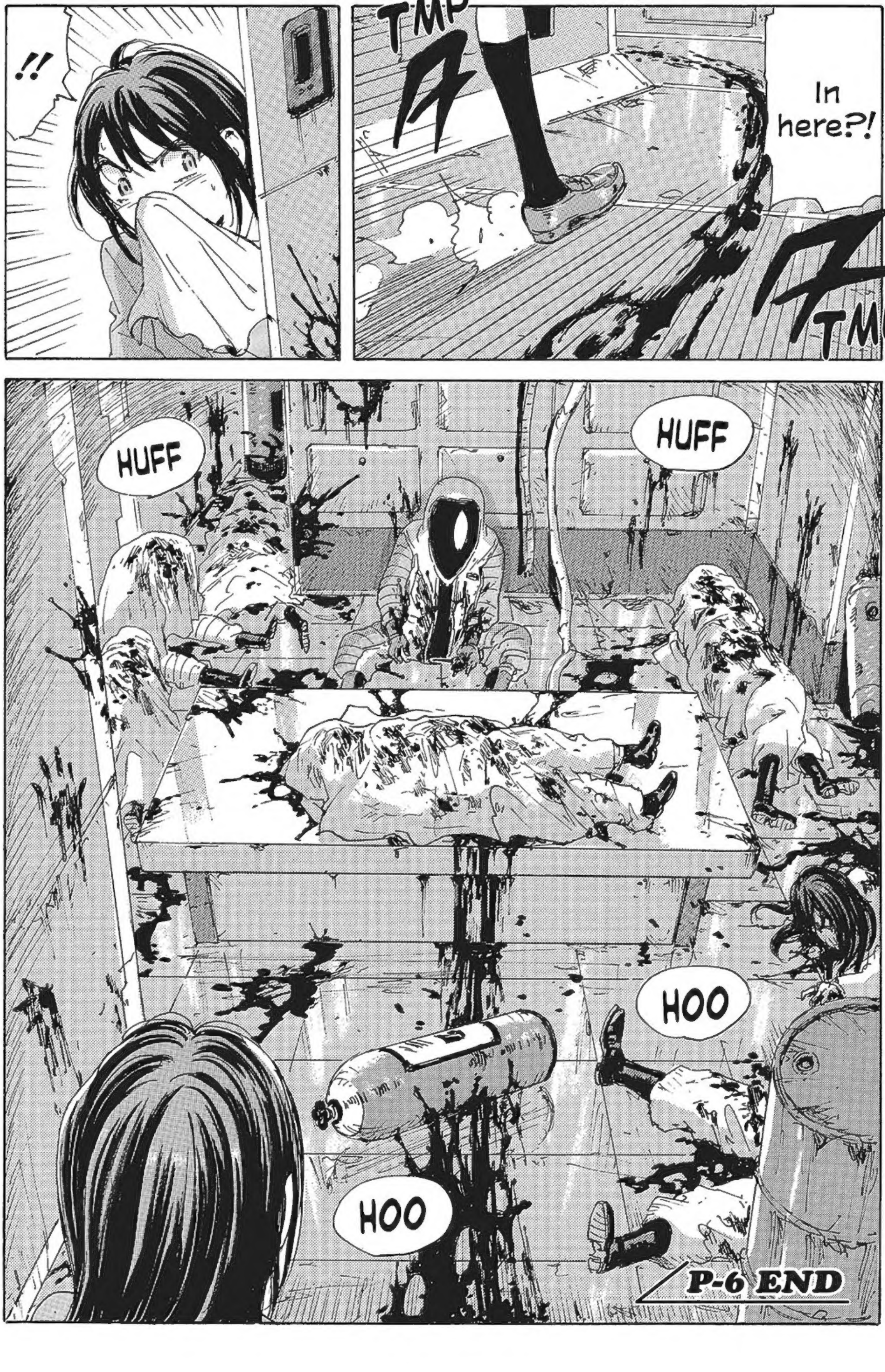

Hey, everybody okay?!
Yuppers, Ibara!
The bank's this way!
We can go straight into the underground vault.
Alright...
We should get a move on.
Boy! Try to get through to them one more time!
Okay, Mama! Hellooo! Ryunosuke here!
FVVT
There's power here...
Answer if you're there!
Shibuya to Shinto Bank, come iiin!
...?!


Dammit ...
This is the vault?!
What? Something wrong?
Don't look!
GWSH
?!
...Look after him for a bit, would you?
Y-Yes!
BZZT
BZZT


What's ...
What's this red sub-stance ?!
It's blood.
It's comin' from the vault.
...
It's dry... looks like it's been here for about two weeks.
LICK
But whose is it?
Oh, no...
...
...
KREE
I'm gonna open it now.


KREEEEEEE
...?!
Ugh...
KOFF
Th-This smell—
Wh-What?!
What is it?! I can't smell anything in this thing!
It smells like decaying bodies.


?!
FVVT
UGH... AH...
Mama, the radio picked something up!
It's from the vault!
STAY... AWAY...
FVVT
FSSH
MON... STER...
FSSH
Someone's still alive in there!
We're going in!
Wait...
I'll pass!
TMP
TMP


TMP
In here?!
TMP
!!
HUFF
HUFF
HOO
HOO
P-6 END

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KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Shadowcat